Dear Parents/ Guardians

Welcome to year 1/2P. My name is Mrs Powell and I will be your child’s classroom teacher for 2017. I hope all of my students and their families had a fantastic summer holiday. The students have settled in very nicely and are getting used to our daily routine. I have been very pleased with the students’ progress and am very much looking forward to implementing all of the exciting learning opportunities over the next 10 weeks. Each year comes new beginnings, routines and expectations. I have outlined a few below so that all of my parents are aware of the procedures in 1/2P.

Before School
Students are to wait in the under covered area until the first bell rings at 8.20am. The teacher on duty (8am- 8.20am) will dismiss the students from there. Students are to walk up to our classroom and wait outside in two lines.

Transitions
Once the students have entered the classroom they are to complete the morning transition (we will be practising these towards the end of week one). This allows students to settle into their daily routine and focus from the moment they walk in the door.

Homework
• Homework will begin week TWO
• Students will receive spelling, mathematics, sight words and reading homework each MONDAY.
• Homework is to return with students on FRIDAY.
• Reading is a crucial part of your child’s homework. Please have your child read for at least 10 minutes, at least 4 NIGHTS A WEEK. Reading books are to be returned daily or as needed. It would also be great if an adult is able read other books to your child every night before bed as this is very good for developing your child’s love for reading as well as language and concept development.
• Some children may need help with reading the instructions of their homework. However, it will be better if your child is encouraged to do the sheets independently where possible. Discussion is fine!
• Independent practice will help your child develop and/or consolidate his/her understanding and knowledge of relevant facts, concepts and processes covered this year.
• Students are to write out spelling once each day (using look, cover, write and check).

Extra-Curricular Activities
Students will have two Health and Physical Education lessons (Monday & Tuesday) and two Music lessons (Thursday & Friday) per week. Students will the opportunity to take part in one religious lesson per fortnight (optional).
Communicating
Please feel free to book a meeting with me if you have any concerns regarding your child progress either inside/outside the classroom. Ensuring your child has a successful and enjoyable school year is my primary concern. Each family will be given a communication book, any messages you have for me regarding your child can be written in this book. If you child comes home with an issue, please double check to see if they have spoken to a teacher about it first. I cannot assist to solve problems if I am not made aware of them (incidents in playgrounds particularly).

Volunteers!
If there are any parents who have some free time and would like to volunteer within the classroom, please let me know. I always have a pile of laminating/cutting that needs doing or a listening ear for my students to practise their reading strategies with. I will have a timetable stuck to my window near our class door. If you are available please feel free to write your name in a timeslot that best suits you. This will commence week two.

What are we learning this term?

English
The students will explore traditional and fractured fairy tales. Students will compare and contrast different stories, identify elements of fairy-tale stories, sequence events and create exciting new characters. At the end of the unit the children will create and present an alternative description of a stereotypical character from a fairy tale.

Mathematics
The students will cover a number of areas including units of measurement, number and place value, data representation and interpretation and chance. Assessment for mathematics will be ongoing throughout the term from observation and samples of the children's work.

History
The students will examine changes in technology that have occurred over time, to develop an understanding of the impact that technology has had on people’s lives. The children will be assessed by compiling a collection of work on changing technology.

Science
The students will investigate the topic - Mix, make and Use. In this unit the students investigate combinations of different materials and give reasons for the selection of particular materials according to their properties and purpose. The children will be assessed on their “Science Journal” entries and ability to describe changes made to materials when combining them to make a house for the Three Little Pigs that is strong and water tight.

Health
The students will explore the topic - My classroom is healthy, safe and fun. In this unit, students will investigate the concept of what health is and which foods and activities make them healthy. They will explore opportunities in the classroom environment where healthy and safe practices can be implemented. Students will also identify the actions that they can apply to keep themselves and others healthy and safe in their classroom. The children will be assessed on a project - My classroom is healthy, safe and fun where they will answer questions on this topic.
**Technology**
This term we will be investigating design technology. In this unit, students will explore the STEM design task ladder to investigate the process of designing, creating, problem solving and re-designing. Assessment will be linked to their science design challenge. At the end of the term the children will also plan and make their Easter Bonnet for our school parade.

**Art - Drama**
This term the class is investigating the use of role play to tell a story. In this unit students use dramatic elements and conventions to express ideas. They will learn to consider particular audiences and purposes for their role plays. At the end of the unit students will develop a role play in groups to retell a fairy tale we explored in the English unit.

For more of an explanation about your child's year please feel free to attend our parent information evening. I look forward to getting to know your child and ensuring I do my very best to enable them to succeed to the best of their abilities both inside and outside the classroom.

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Classroom Teacher

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Principal