

Otter Class Newsletter 3rd – 11th September



This week:

Maths: Place Value – we usually start each year with a place value unit. It is the foundation of any arithmetic problem so needs full attention and focus. If we can get this right, everything else becomes a little bit easier.

English: This half term we're going to be writing autobiographies. We started to have a think about a scene that would *have to be* in a Netflix film about us. We've also been working on relative clauses, to help our writing sound more sophisticated and as a way to add extra information.

Art: This half term our art topic is drawing and our featured artist is Alphonso Dunn. This week, we have started trying out some Pen and Ink techniques.

History: Our history this half term focusses on the Vikings. To start our unit, we have been thinking about why we study the past.

PE: In PE we have been working on team building and invasion games (attack and defence). Some of the children also went swimming on Monday.

As always, if you have any questions or problems, please pop us an email at otter@hinghamprimary.org.uk.

Coming Up:

Monday

- Swimming (not all children)

Wednesday

- Willersley Castle Residential

Thursday

- Willersley Castle Residential

Friday

- Willersley Castle Residential

Reminders:

- Children need a waterproof coat (preferably with a hood), wellies and a water bottle in school, every day.
- Names should be written in/on everything, so we can get any lost items back to you quickly.
- Fruit and veg snacks for break time, only please. **No nuts at any time.**

Residential:

Some important things to note about the residential:

Travelling there:

- Children arrive at normal time on Wednesday.
 - o Non-uniform but comfortable and ideally ready for the first activity, in case there isn't time to change.
 - o Children **need a packed lunch**.
 - o A small number of sweets are allowed but nothing messy and **no nuts**.
 - o Quiet coach games (top trumps etc) can be brought for the journey.
 - o A pillow/small blanket can be brought for the coach.
 - o **Absolutely no electronics.**
 - o If your child needs medication while we are away, please see Mrs Martinez in the hall on Wednesday morning. She will have relevant forms and will look after the medication.

Please do not pack it in your child's bag.

- **The only exception to this is inhalers.** We can take your child's school-based inhaler and already have the relevant forms for this. **Where possible, children will be responsible for their own inhaler during the residential. Additional inhalers will need a form.**

What to bring:

- Children should have brought home a hard copy of the kit list today, along with a list of what to wear for different activities.
- The activities we are doing are:
 - o Tug of War Blind Trail River Tubing Fencing High Elements
 - o Grass Sledge Aero Ball Zip Wire Rifles
- Children must wear the right clothes (long sleeves where stated, for example) or they will not be permitted to take part.

Packing/luggage:

- Where possible, please pack everything into one bag/case. If the sleeping bag doesn't fit, this should be tied to a handle.
- **Absolutely everything should be named.** Children sharing rooms almost guarantees things will be misplaced/muddled. We cannot get items back to you if they do not have names in.
- Children are responsible for their own luggage.
 - o Please involve your child in the packing process so they know what they have brought and where it is.
 - o We would encourage your child to try packing their sleeping bag this weekend. They are not the easiest things to get back into the bag and it's the thing that most children struggle with. We have activities on the last day and limited time for packing so the children cannot rely on the 3 of us to help them pack.

Taking part:

- We encourage all children to give everything a go, but no one is pressured into anything.
- The instructors are great and know their stuff. We are in safe hands. That being said, they do take safety seriously. **Any one not participating safely or not listening to safety instructions will be removed from the activity.**

Keeping in touch:

- I will try to upload photos and a quick note about our day, to the class webpage each evening.
- **Please ensure your child's photo and video permissions are accurate and up to date.**

Returning to Hingham:

- We usually get back to Hingham at about 6pm on the Friday.
- We will keep you up to date with an ETA and any updates, as the journey progresses.
- Children will have eaten breakfast and a good lunch before leaving.
- Please wait on the playground for us to return. It's important we get the children and luggage safely off the coach and back to the correct family! It can be quite chaotic and, rightly, everyone is excited to see each other. However, we still need to know that everyone has their stuff and is going home with the right person so please help us to do this quickly and safely.

If you have any worries/concerns or questions at this stage, please get in touch as soon as possible and we will do our best to help as much as we can. You can email otter@hinghamprimary.org.uk or catch me on the playground at the end of the day.