

MONKTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Steve Rafferty



Sadlers Mead
CHIPPENHAM
Wiltshire
SN15 3PN

Telephone: 01249 652395 **PG/6**

Fax: 01249 445200

admin@monktonpark.wilts.sch.uk www.monktonpark.wilts.sch.uk

January 2019

Dear Parents,

Hello and Happy New Year, I hope you have had a fantastic holiday and are all well rested for the busy term ahead!

I am delighted to introduce myself as Rabbits' new class teacher and am very much looking forward to getting to know the children and yourselves. I am very aware of how daunting it can be to have a new teacher mid year and will do everything in my power to make the transition of teachers as smooth as possible for the children. We have had an amazing first week and I have been so impressed with their independence and enthusiasm for school.

Please can you continue to encourage the children to be independent in the mornings and allow them to put their own snack and drink away, and their book bags and coats on their pegs.

This term our main focus will be being kind to one another, self care and independence. We will be focusing on relationships and how we make our school a happy place.

Our topic this term will be 'Animals', although most of our planning will be led by the children and their interests. This topic is one that the children in reception often love and we will also be taking the opportunity to observe any wildlife in our own wildlife area.

Please encourage your child to join in 'show and tell' if they have something they would like to bring in to show the class and talk about they are very welcome to.

We will be looking at our local area and will be taking the children on several 'welly walks' to look at different parts of our community, inside and outside of the school grounds. We will also focus on the buildings that we may see on the way to school and the buildings that we might recognise in and around Chippenham. We will also be making the most of our new Outdoor classroom!

Our main focus for English will be 'story retell', with the main focus being on the story 'Zog'. We will also be having a big push on pencil grip and will be having lots of fine motor activities and handwriting activities for the children to try in the classroom. We will be looking at different materials and their uses in science and in music this term we will be using our scheme 'Music Express' and looking at the unit 'In the groove'.

We will continue teaching 'phonics' on a daily basis, some children will begin to move onto the Phase 3 strand of Letters and sounds, where as some children will need to recap some of the Phase 2 sounds that were taught in the previous term.

Rabbits will be doing PE on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** this term, the children usually bring their PE kits in at the start of term and keep them at school on their pegs until the end of term.

We continue to record observations of the children and their work through an 'Eprofile' system and this is already looking very full with the things that the children achieved in the previous term. The boards in the classrooms are constantly changing with the work that the children are producing as they develop and learn, so please feel free to come and have a look.

I would like to thank you for your warm welcome and your continuing support, if you have any questions please feel free to come and ask me, after school is usually a good time.

Mrs Hamilton