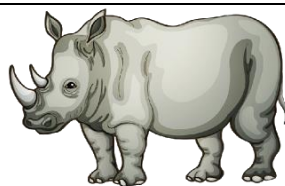


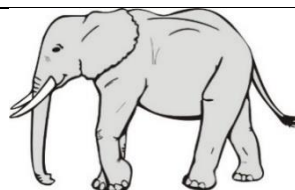
Waterbeach Community Primary School

Rhinos, Elephants and Meerkats Team Letter

End Summer 2023/Autumn 2023



Rhinos
Miss Pritchard



Elephants
Miss D'Uva



Meerkats
Mr Stafford

The purpose of this letter is to give you important information about the year ahead. You will find details about home learning, reading books and other documents that you will be receiving to help you to support your child in their learning. There is also information about the exciting things that your child will be learning next year. A copy of this letter and other useful information will be posted on the school website. Have a great Summer.

EXCITING THINGS THE CHILDREN WILL BE LEARNING IN THE AUTUMN TERM...

Our topic for the whole term is **Down on the Farm**. In this topic we will explore what happens on a farm and how farming has changed over time. We will look at the different jobs on a farm, types of machinery and what it is like working in the fields. In DT, we will use different farm produce to create our own fruit and vegetable kebabs, we will explore different tastes and textures of produce before using this information to help us design a delicious fruit kebab. In Art, we will look at artist Guiseppe Acimboldo who liked to work with fruits and vegetables, we will explore different sketching techniques of fruits and vegetables before creating our own self-portraits in the style of his work. In Music, we will go 'down on the farm' and explore music and songs about farms.



In Science, we will explore the seasons, we will begin with Autumn and explore different signs of Autumn, what the weather is like, what clothes we wear, what changes happen with animals. In Geography, we will use the school grounds to explore our mapping skills. We will learn the compass points and use these to help us map a route around the school. In RE, we will explore 'Who am I?' before finding out about views on creation and 'who made the world?' In computing, we will explore internet safety and in PSHE we will learn more about Growth Mindset and about rights, rules, and responsibilities.

More information about our curriculum

More information about the curriculum content can be found in our '[Curriculum Captures](#)' ([click here](#)) on the school website. These are useful for parents to see the content of what is being taught and to use this information to help support your child at home.

NEW SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS

8.40 – children are met at their classroom door/gate by their teacher and settle into an early morning activity.
8.45 – registration opens
8.50 - the doors will close, after this time, children will need to come to the office and be signed in.
12.00– 12.45 – Lunchtime
3.15 – End of the school day



Children will have a 15 minute break during morning and during the afternoon.

Class Teachers & Teacher PPA (Planning, Preparation & Assessment) Time

On Friday Miss Pritchard, Miss D'Uva and Mr Stafford have their PPA time, the classes will be taught by Premier Sport, Mrs Langley and Mrs Page. Mr Stafford's management time will be covered by Mrs Waddup.

Teaching Assistant Support

Mrs Bolton-Luckie, Miss Foster, Miss Fu and Mrs Waddup will be supporting across the three classes.

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BEHAVIOUR INFORMATION

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for everyone so that we can all work together in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe that we can do this by trying to keep the school rules.

We are gentle	We are honest	We are kind and helpful
We try our best	We listen	We look after property

For more details on our behaviour policy please see the [follow this link to the school website page](#).

EATING & DRINKING

Children should bring a named bottle with WATER ONLY for them to drink during the day. Juice is not permitted to be drunk throughout the day (only with their lunch). Please, please do not put water bottles in book bags, we have had so many reading and home learning books ruined due to leaking bottles. You may wish to purchase a separate bottle carrier that attaches to the side of the book bag.

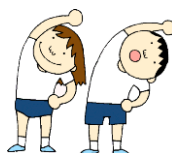
SNACK & LUNCH

Children will continue to have a fruit snack provided by the government. All children in Year 1 are entitled to Free School Meals. Please help your child to make their choice for school lunches by sharing the menu with them before school. The [school lunch menu can be found here](#).

PE

PE days for all classes are Thursdays and Fridays

Children should have a PE kit consisting of: their house colour T-shirt without buttons, dark plain shorts, jogging bottoms, a jumper and a change of shoes for outdoors. No jewellery should be worn during Physical Education lessons including swimming. It is also not safe to cover earrings / studs / sleepers with tape. If children wear earrings to school they need to be able to remove them themselves for PE lessons. If your child is unable to do so, earrings should be removed before coming to school. We advise that if you are going to allow your child to have their ears pierced, that this is done at the start of the summer holidays so that their PE entitlement is not compromised. We ask that all PE kits are kept in a drawstring bag and are left in school. We send home PE kits at the end of each half term for washing during holiday time. **PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING! As per the school policy, we record if a child does not have their PE kit with them and send a letter home if it is repeatedly forgotten.**



MUDDY MONDAYS

Year 1 will be going to the woodland area on a Monday. Please look on the weekly Learning Sharing for information on which classes will be going for the week ahead. On these days children should come to school dressed in old clothes that are suitable for getting mucky and practical for activities such as climbing trees and den building in all weathers. Dresses are not appropriate for Muddy Monday. Children should also bring a change of shoes, preferably wellies with them on Mondays to wear whilst they are in the forest area. Please make sure they wear their normal school shoes to school. Wellies can be kept in school if you wish.

HOME LEARNING

Summer Home Learning

This year we would like all children to focus on reading for their home learning. There are so many ways that you could do this such as sharing a book together, reading to your child or joining the library Summer Reading Challenge. In our experience, many children tend to lose some of their good reading habits during the holidays and this can set back their progress. As we need to be able to read to access nearly all other subjects, we really want all our children to retain the skills they have worked so hard to achieve this year. So - lots and lots of reading please! Thank you. Miss Green.

Autumn Term Home Learning

Each week, you will receive phonics information linked to the learning your child has been doing in school so that you can support your child by practising their reading and spelling using these sounds. This will be sent on a Friday with the Weekly Learning Sharing and via the Year 1 phonics home learning book.

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After their three reading practise sessions in school, the children will bring home the book they have practised reading all week. This means that they should be confident and fluent when reading the book to you at home. This is something for the to share with you and to be celebrated! They will also be bringing a 'choice/sharing' book home from our library which we ask you to read to your child and share the pleasure of reading a book together. It is important to aim to read daily to your child and share the pleasure of reading and discussing books with them.

COMMUNICATION

We aim to have open communication channels to keep you informed about everything that is going on in school and to give easy access to speak to us if needed.

Ways we can communicate:

School/team letters – all letters are sent via email.

Weekly learning sharing – every Friday an email is sent out to give you an overview of what the children will be learning about the following week, this may also have important notices on.

Website – we hope the website is a good reference source, if there are things that you would like to see included, please let us know.

Email – you can send emails to your child's class teacher or team leader. The protocol is that teachers will respond within 3 working days. If you need a more urgent response then you can leave a message with the school office or send a note to your child's class teacher.

Rhinos Class Teacher – Miss Pritchard ipritchard@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Elephants Class Teacher – Miss D'Uva fduva@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Meerkats Class Teacher and Joint Team Leader – Mr Stafford astafford@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Joint Team Leader – Miss Gregory – cgregory@waterbeach.cambs.sch.uk

Appointments – if you would like to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher, please contact them via email.

Concerns – if you have any concerns about an issue within the class, please email or speak to the class teacher in the first instance. Then if needed concerns can be raised with the team leader, Mr Stafford, or Miss Gregory. When necessary, you may then wish to contact Miss Green or Mrs Ogilvie.

Autumn Term Key Dates

We aim to keep to these dates but occasionally due to circumstances beyond our control, they may need to change.

Please see separate attachment for the school key dates.

[For term dates for the rest of the year follow this link.](#)