Freethorpe Primary School

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Wednesday 14th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year to you all! Goldfinch Class have returned settled and ready to continue our learning and we look forward to an exciting term ahead.

We begin this term with Let's Explore, looking at what it means to be an explorer, learning about famous explorers of the past, as well as becoming explorers ourselves taking full advantage of our outdoor environment.

Our English will also be based around this topic, and we will be practising sentence composition, focusing on the 'Fab Four' which we are introducing to the children;

Capital letters

Punctuation

Finger spaces

Letter formation

For Reception children we will continue to send home the formation sheets of the digraphs we are learning. Continuing to practise these sounds at home, especially remembering where to begin the formation, will support their writing progress. We will also update the Sounds of the week on the Facebook post as well as add the sounds to their Reading records.

We will continue to read a decodable book together in school at least three times a week within small reading groups. Following this work in which we read and discuss the text we send home a copy of the book we have read together.

Please support your child to read this book over the week (daily when possible) as it will help to develop fluency within their reading. We discuss practising the fluency and expression as the children read during the week and support in continuing this over the next week at home supports confidence and consolidates their skills.

Please write a note in the Reading Record when your child reads with you, as they get rewarded with a house point for each day they read. This can just be a note to say you have read or note down anything in particular you have noticed if you would like to do so.

Phonics lessons will continue, following the Little Wandle scheme and be taught in year groups as last this term.

- Reception children will work with Mrs Davies.
- Year 1 children will work with Mrs Short in Barn Owl class.

P.E. will continue to take place on a Thursday. Please ensure that your child comes to school in their P.E. kit and trainers on this day so that they are ready to join in comfortably. Ear-rings need to be removed on this day or taped if unable to be removed.

Daily Routines and Reminders

- Please bring your communication books each day and use them to note who will be collecting your child, or if they are attending any clubs/Out of School care, as well as any other information that will be beneficial. If you have lost your book please let us know as these are vital for current communications.
- I am also available at the beginning or the end of the day if you would like to discuss anything in person.
- Please ensure school dinners are ordered online in advance. It is helpful to note the choice of dinner, or if a home pack, in your child's communication book for their reassurance.
- Please provide a spare change of clothes to leave on your child's peg as well as a pair of named wellies. We continue outdoor learning whatever the weather but wellies are needed for this when wet.
- Your child will also need a coat and water bottle each day. Please ensure that all belongings are named!

Thank you for your continued support and as always if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes,

Mrs Davies

Class Teacher