



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new academic year! I trust that you have all enjoyed a relaxing summer break and that you are recharged and ready for what lies ahead. This year each class at St David's has been named after a German river. Following our transition session in July, it was decided that Years 1 and 2 (KS1) would be known as 'Rhein Class'.



### Movers and Shakers



In the Movers and Shakers project, your child will learn five statements from Dawson's model that will help them identify people who are historically significant and use the words year, decade and century to describe dates and times. They will study the life and impact of a significant person in the country and of 10 significant individuals from around the world. They will complete in-depth studies of significant explorers Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong and think carefully about the impact of their actions. To kick-off this topic, you are invited to attend a launch pad session, in school with your child, on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September** between 1:15 and 2:15pm.

### Areas of Provision

Continuous provision offers children the chance to engage in active learning through hands-on, play-based activities which they can access throughout the school day. The classroom has been laid out, so that there are areas and resources for the children to access independently and alongside an adult. The children will be set challenges each week, which will relate to current or previous learning. Continuous provision can enable children to explore recent learning, practise new skills, and follow their own interests, both indoors and out. We will often enhance the provision areas to make links to adult-led learning. This gives us the opportunity to introduce our adult-led activities, being sure that children have plenty of chances to practise and improve skills, knowledge, and confidence in active, independent learning. This was a huge success last year which allowed me to see the children's interests and skills outside of our directed sessions.

### PE

PE will take place once a week, with Mr Niedzwiedzki. This will normally be on Wednesday but may change from week to week. Children require their PE kit to be in school, on their peg from Monday to Friday. We ask that long hair be tied back and earrings removed or covered for the sessions. Red t-shirts and black shorts with a change of shoes are required. This half term, the children will be working on their throwing and catching skills.



### Forest School



KS1 forest school sessions will take place every **Thursday** morning from the **15<sup>th</sup> of September**. Children may wear their base layers into school and keep them on for the rest of the day. A change of shoes is necessary to ensure that we do not bring too much of the forest back into the classrooms with us! As always, long sleeves and long trousers are a must throughout the school year to help prevent tick bites. As the weather begins to cool down towards half term, they will also need to remember their extra layers including hats, scarves, and waterproof gloves. Please remember to check your children for ticks after our sessions.

### Numbots

It is **essential** that, once learned and introduced to, your child practises their key number facts regularly and the Numbots app is a fun way of doing it. Aim for your child to play in Story Mode for three minutes, four to five times a week, to get the best out of NumBots. Little and often is key! We will use this in school, but the children will also be given a login to access the app at home. Log on details are kept in the front of the children's reading records.



### Doodle Package

As a school, we will continue to access the Doodle programmes. These are excellent for practising and learning English, maths and spelling skills. The apps will be used in school and, to maintain their skills, the children are free to use the apps at home. Any overuse of the programme will prevent them from accessing all its features, so little and often, again, is the key! The same username and password are used for each of the apps. Year 1 and 2 children need only access the maths, English and spelling apps, at this time. Year 2 will work towards using the times tables app as the year goes on.

### Homework

Children are expected to read and share a book with you, daily. It is very valuable if you can also read to your child each day. They will all be issued with a homework book. In it will be a grid of homework activities for them to choose from throughout the half term. They may select an item of their choice to complete. However, they may choose more than one! Any written work can be completed in the homework book, or they are free to use other methods, if you/they prefer. We will share homework on a Friday morning. If you complete anything electronically, please email it into the school office.

As always, if you would like to raise a question or concern, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with the office or catch me on the playground at home time.

Best regards,  
Laura Wendt