

Welcome Swallows!

We are so excited to be welcoming you to our Swallows class.

The teachers in your classroom are;

Mrs Hannah Hodgkinson (Mon-Weds) and **Miss Burns** and **Mrs Brucciani** (Thurs-Fri).

We love working with you and your friends in the Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2, as we think it is the most fun and exciting place to be. We are always amazed by how much you grow and the incredible learning that you do. We love getting to know you and we plan our learning around things that you are interested in. We are going to have a fantastic time together.

Miss Burns is our amazing teaching assistant. We all work together to plan and to help you all with your learning.

We start each day with our class registration, where we choose dinners and have a little catch up with you all. Then we have a Phonics sessions together. We learn important skills in Phonics which help us to recognise sounds and this helps us to learn to read and write.

We spend time in Continuous Provision where we are very busy and we spend time working in groups on focused activities linked to our learning. The grown-ups in your classroom come and join you to play sometimes and other times you will play on your own or with your friends. There are lots of different challenges to complete.

PE sessions may change throughout the year but currently we will have P.E. on a Tuesday afternoon and a Thursday or Friday afternoon. Please keep your P.E. kit and trainers in school for those days, remembering to have your name in all your clothes. We will send your P.E. kit home each half term so it can be washed. In Autumn 2 and Spring term it is a good idea to include a pair of joggers in your PE kit as we will sometimes go outside.

We love **reading** at Cockerham School. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of sharing books together and talking about stories at home every day. We have story sessions every day and it is always a brilliant time to ask questions and share ideas. You take books home to read from the reading scheme in school. In Year 1 and 2, these books will be phonetically decodable books that follow the phonemes that we are teaching in school. We try to read each book twice in order to develop fluency, "smooth reading" and confidence. You will all have a reading folder to bring home. **Adults write in your yellow reading record book each time you practise reading at school or at home.** This is another helpful tool for regular communication.



Where a love of learning grows
Growing in knowledge
Growing in faith
Growing in God's love
Philippians 4:13 **"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"**



Please bring in your own individual **water bottle** each day, but you don't need to bring a snack as we have fruit available in the classroom.

On a Friday the children will bring homework home in their Homework Book in their reading bag. This will include Phonics work we have been completing in school that week. There is information for parents in the book about what we have been teaching, as well as an activity for the children to complete. There will also be some Spelling Shed activities to complete. These are spelling we have been learning in school and the children need to continue to learn for the following Friday when they will have a Spelling Test on those words. There is also a half termly Key Instant Recall Facts sheet which will help you as parents support your child's Maths recall of number facts which is crucial to developing basic numeracy. The Spelling Choice Boards are there for suggestions for other activities which will help the children learn their spellings. Half termly the children will also be tested on the Common Exception Words the need to learn to spell for their year group. Words highlighted pink on the sheet are the words the children already know how to spell. Words highlighted green are words to work on learning next.

We have **Worship** every day. This is led by Reverend Gary, staff from school or sometimes our worship team. This is a lovely time for us all to sing, pray, learn about our Christian values, local and global events and to share ideas and reflect. Sometimes worship is in the hall with the whole school or sometimes it is in our class groups. We say a prayer at lunch time and always end the school day with our End of Day Prayer;

"Hands together, softly so, little eyes shut tight. Father just before we go, hear our prayers tonight. We are all your children here, this is what we pray. Keep us when the dark is near, and through every day. Amen."

Parents - If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, then please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be more than happy to help.

Thank you so much for sending the children to school looking so smart. They have been really proud of their uniforms, bags and drinks bottles. **Please could everyone add a keyring onto school bags? This helps the children to identify their bag as their own.**

If the people collecting your child is different than those that collect and drop off normally then please email or telephone to make school aware. Your child will not be handed to an adult unless we are informed.

The Swallows Class Team



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