



Radnor Road
Wallingford
Oxon OX10 0NY
Phone: 01491 836341
e-mail headteacher.2578@fir-tree.oxon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Marc Knight

Monday 18th September 2023

Dear Cedar Class families,

The class are settling in really well, especially so considering what a big change it is plus the unusually high temperatures in the first week back! We are very proud of how well they are settling and finding their feet.

For those who don't know, the Cedar Team are Mrs Giles, Mrs Bones and Mrs Benny.

Please do come and speak to us if ever you have a worry or a concern. I can do quick chats before or after school but for anything longer please do make an appointment with me so we can dedicate the time to it. I can be reached by email via the 'Contact Us' section of the Cedar Class website - [Cedar Year 3 | Fir Tree Junior School \(fir-tree-juniors.org\)](http://Cedar Year 3 | Fir Tree Junior School (fir-tree-juniors.org)) . I will endeavour to get back to you at my earliest convenience.

I will update the class page as often as possible with pictures, news and curriculum information. Looking at the webpage with your child is a really good opportunity for children to share their learning with you and discuss what we have been doing.

In terms of homework, we will be sending out high frequency spelling words for you to work on at home with your child, tailored to your child's needs in the first instance.

Please read daily to and with your child, books that interest them and make it a fun, enjoyable and quality time together.

Please also practise counting forwards and backwards from different starting points across tricky boundaries and develop fluency and confidence with number, plus practise number bonds to 10/20/50/100 depending on your child's ability.

We will not be sending out homework books this term or asking you to record anything formally for the whole of term one whilst children are settling into life at Fir Tree. We do welcome, however, 'Surprise Me' homework which is related to our learning and current project in school.

A word about 'Show and Tell' – generally we are keen to show things that are related to our project and keen to celebrate successes and achievements from outside school, but please avoid your child bringing in unrelated things to show as there is precious little time left in the school day.

On the website there is a rough idea of a timetable – it does change often! Sometimes things take longer or less time and unexpected things crop up, so we go with the flow. The timetable balances out over the course of a week or term, so please don't worry.

PE is **Tuesday** and **Thursday** this term.

Please always have a raincoat and sunhat in your child's bag – we do go out in the rain and sun!

We are committed to delivering education of the highest quality that supports and challenges all pupils to learn and progress in a secure and happy environment.
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Forest sessions – please come dressed in usual school tops but trousers/leggings to stop legs being stung by nettles. Wellies will be necessary as the weather deteriorates.

Now that your child is more familiar with Fir Tree, please feel free to leave your child in the playground when you drop them off in the mornings. An adult is always on duty.

Your child is welcome to bring in a small pencil case as sometimes they prefer using things of their own. We cannot accept responsibility if items get lost. Anything precious please leave at home.

Thank you for making sure your child has a water bottle in school and for all the well labelled clothing.

We are enjoying working with your children and appreciate all the support we have received already.

With warm wishes

The Cedar Team