**Dear Parents,**

**We are delighted that your child will be joining our school in September. Although we are in a different situation this year, we will do our best to give you plenty of information to prepare you and your child for starting their school journey. We are really looking forward to meeting you all and having a wonderful year together.**

**The Reception class will be taught by Miss H McCarthy and Mrs S Morgan.**

**Miss McCarthy (Monday and Tuesday) Mrs Morgan (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)**

**The Reception/year 1 class will be taught by Mrs. S. Coxshall.**

**We hope that you will find the following information useful.**

**Preparing your child for school**

**In order to support a smooth transition into school, listed below are some of the expectations we would like you to work towards with your child. We appreciate that every child develops skills and understanding in their own time and we will continue to support these steps upon their arrival into school.**

* **To be able to put their own coat on**
* **Attempt to do up their own coat**
* **Dress themselves (we are always on standby to help, especially with buttons/zips/tights etc)**
* **Undress themselves**
* **Develop an understanding of hygiene awareness**
* **Manage their own toileting needs**
* **To be independent in entering a setting**
* **Can recognise own name**
* **Can sit and listen to a story**
* **Express own needs**
* **Work towards counting, recognising numbers and know colour names**
* **Can hold a pencil**
* **Can use scissors effectively**
* **Can use a knife and fork**
* **To join in with nursery rhymes**

**Dinner Money**

**Dinner money is paid using a cashless system where you credit your child’s account prior to ordering. If your child is starting school for the first time this term, the details you will need to credit your child’s account will be given to you by letter in September. Your child will be asked if they are having packed lunch or a school dinner on each morning and given a choice of meals for that particular day. If your child requires a lunch on the first week of school in September this will be ordered and charged once your account is activated.**

**Fruit**

**All children require fruit for snack time and this is eaten in class before break time ( we do not allow peaches or nectarines due to a food allergy in school). Each morning your child will find the fruit stick with their name and push it into their fruit on the snack table.**

**Water bottles**

**All children need to bring a water bottle to school which they have access to throughout the day. Water bottles with the school logo can be purchased from the school office.**

**P.E Kit**

**Children are required to have P.E kit in school which consists of a white t-shirt and black shorts clearly labelled with your child’s name. This term we will be doing movement lessons in the school hall and therefore outdoor shoes are not necessary, however the children can bring black pumps or have bare feet.**

**Outdoor Learning**

**We will be going outside to learn as much as possible and on a Tuesday, children will require a warm and waterproof coat and wellington boots.**

**Uniform**

**Children have their own coat peg where they can put their bag and any belongings throughout the day. The school uniform consists of black or grey trousers/skirt, a red polo shirt and a blue jumper with the school logo on, all items must be clearly labelled with your child’s name. The blue jumper and red polo shirts with the school logo can be purchased from the school office.**

**Toys**

**We encourage children to speak about their news; special objects of a sensible size are welcomed into class on a Monday to help them talk about their news. We ask that children do not bring valuable belongings into school as they can be lost or broken. We ask children to keep any personal belongings in their bag until we have our circle time.**

**Reading books/Homework**

**Reading books will go home daily, more information will follow as the children start school. Some of our early books will not have words, just pictures to encourage your child to talk about the story and answer questions which are located on the accompanying sheet inside the cover. In addition to the individual reading books, the children will also participate in weekly Guided Reading sessions to support their development. Over the course of the term we will also send home some key words to support the children’s reading. More information will follow shorty.**

**Please do not hesitate to contact us with any concerns or queries you may have as your communication is always valued. We would like to extend our thanks in advance for your support over the forthcoming term.**

**Kind Regards**

**Mrs S. Morgan, Miss H. McCarthy & Mrs. S. Coxshall**

Email- admissions2020@presteigne.powys.sch.uk