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Newsletter 30

Monday 13th May 2024

Believe and Achieve

Water Bottles

Following on from the Parent Mail sent out earlier this week, some clarification to avoid anyone misinterpreting our relatively flexible rules:

- **All children can have a drink whenever they wish.** However, there are some practicalities to ensure your child's safety.
- At break time (15 minutes) pupils can have a drink before they go out to play and they can have a drink at the end. If they are really desperate during play they can go in and have a drink. This should be a **very rare** occurrence as all children should be able to last this short period of time outside.
- At lunchtime, pupils can have a drink before they go out to play. They also have a drink during their meal. This can be refilled if they ask. For the rest of the lunchtime break, the same as break time, they can have a drink whenever they choose. Key Stage Two have a water fountain which is available throughout the session.
- The school does not actively promote water bottles going outside for several practical reasons:
 1. Accommodating 600+ bottles outside, with many unnamed, would be challenging.
 2. Although pupils should only bring in water, we are aware that this is not always followed. With some pupils having allergies against sweeteners that are often in "squashes" this has the potential to put certain children at risk if they pick up the wrong bottle.
 3. Pupils drinking while playing has the potential to cause injury if they are bumped into.
- Having stated all that, as **I'm sure your child will tell you**, we never stop a child taking a bottle out but just try to encourage them to use other ways of getting a drink.
- At the end of lunchtime children can have a drink back in their classroom.
- At the height of summer children can take water out during PE. However, we do proactively encourage them to be small or school bottles, rather than the very large ones which are very popular at the moment.

I hope you can see our guidelines are very reasonable and flexible and not the version you may have been misled to believe. If in doubt, ask your child what our rules **have always** been.

Again, I would like to thank so many of you for your kind words and support during a completely unnecessary and provocative incident.

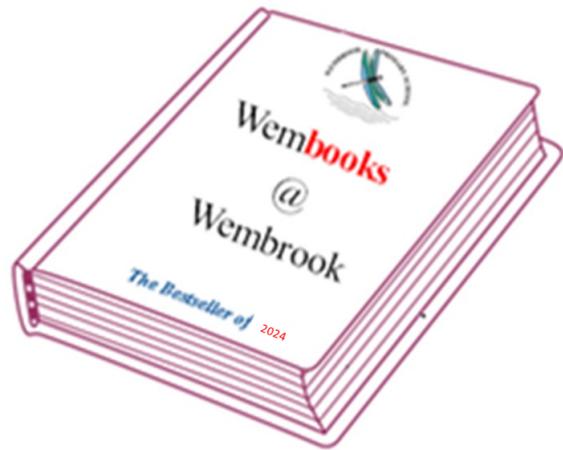
I will not tolerate abusive behaviour on our school site, as I want our school to be a safe place for pupils, staff and the wider community.

Mr P

Wembooks@Wembrook

Next week we are launching our annual initiative to encourage a love of reading at school and **home**.

Every two weeks your child will bring home a new class book, which is to be **read for pleasure**.



They may be instructions from the teacher to read several pages or chapters but more than likely it will just be a book to enjoy with Mum or Dad or perhaps on their own.

The children should bring the book into school everyday, as there may be work in school connected to their reading.

I am sure you will agree and appreciate that in recent years learning has been extremely difficult and as we continue the journey of catching up, **reading is key to this progress**.

Please support your child by actively engaging with them and the book. Try and create some special time most nights, just ten minutes is perfect. Share the book. You can read, they can read, you can read together. Don't make it a chore, try to resist correcting too much and certainly try and make it fun.

So what you need to know:

- A new class book will come home every two weeks.
- Your child will have several books over the Summer term.
- There will be some discretion around normal reading books. It will vary in length but certainly we are not expecting double reading sessions every night.
- Some other homework will be relaxed, especially as we all try to encourage time with the books.
- The books vary in price but some cost over £12. They need to be looked after and stored in a safe place. All books are numbered and if we believe that they have not been looked after appropriately then we may ask you to pay for a replacement.

We all know being a parent is the best and most frustrating job in the world but I personally would say there is no better feeling than to be cuddled up in bed together sharing a book.

If it has been some time, why don't you give it a try!