

## Parents of YR Children - September 2012

### *Welcome to a new school year at Glendale Infant School.*

We would like to tell you about the work your children will be doing during this, their first term at Glendale.

Our main topic this term is 'Myself', and we will talk about our friends, our toys etc.

Basic work, such as phonics, early reading, writing and number activities continue throughout the term and take a very practical approach. All children will bring a reading book home during the first few weeks.

Please look at the books with your child and encourage him/her to talk about the pictures and 'tell' the stories in his/her own words. This is an important stage in your child's language development. Whichever book your child brings home during the course of the year, please try to set aside a short time each day to sit with him/her to read and talk about the book. The importance of this in helping your child's reading development cannot be over emphasised. The books should be sent back into school every morning for use during the school day.

Number work during this term is very practical with activities including sorting, matching, counting, number recognition, opportunities for using balancing and capacity apparatus, comparisons of size, length and height etc. We will also be encouraging all children to write numbers correctly.

Writing activities will include writing patterns and letter formation with emphasis on encouraging the correct pencil hold. Each class has a permanent 'writing table' to encourage the children's emerging free writing.

Please remember that all children are different, and will progress at different rates. If we feel that there are useful activities which you could do at home to help your child, we will get in touch with you individually, otherwise please generally help and encourage your child as much as possible.

Can we please remind you to:

- Send any money into school in named envelopes.
- Send PE kits in either a drawstring bag or carrier bag – not in a rucksack.
- **NAME ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING**, as this helps us to sort out missing cardigans etc.
- Name any bags, lunchboxes, water bottles.
- Make sure your child does not wear jewellery other than studs for safety reasons, or bring any valuable item into school.
- Do not put drinks bottles in book bags.
- Do not send in extra bags

We will be pleased to see you on Parents Evening, on Thursday 25th October, to discuss your child's progress at school so far.

Obviously, the few weeks before Christmas are very busy and enjoyable for us all – with a concert and party towards the end of term. You will receive details of these and any other events as they approach.

Please feel able to come and discuss with us any worries or problems, however small, that you or your child may have, before 8.50a.m. or after 2.55p.m. when the Reception children finish. We are very aware that full time schooling is extremely tiring for little ones, and may make them tearful.

If you have time to spare, we would be delighted to welcome you into school. However, you do need to have been cleared by CRB, (Criminal Records Bureau) – which can now be processed on line. Please ask at the office for more information. *Please note – parents do not normally help in their own child's class.*

We hope that this first year in school will be happy and enjoyable for both you and your child.



