



YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2016~ TERMS 1 AND 2

Welcome to Year 1. It is going to be a very exciting year, full of creativity and inspiring learning opportunities.

School Routines and Equipment

Please ensure your child brings their book bag, a coat and a water bottle to school each day.

Monday– 1A PE, weekly spellings and phonics homework out.

Wednesday- 1B PE

Thursday- 1A+1B PE.

Every fortnight Mrs. Toseland will teach 1A and Mrs Smith 1B.

Friday- Merit Mark Assembly at 2.45pm

Key Dates

Monday 12th September: School Council and Eco Rep Elections. Your child may want to make a poster for the elections on why they would be a good candidate.

Deadline Tuesday 13th September: please can your child bring in a small object that is special to them. They will show this to other children in the year group during their 'This is Me Experience Morning'. For example a teddy, a toy, a book.

Tuesday 13th September: Year 1 Curriculum Evening at 6pm

Deadline Friday 16th September: Please can you send three individual photographs of your child, clearly named and in one envelope. Your child as a baby, a toddler and what they look like now. As part of our 'This is me' topic we are going to be identifying some changes in our lives. We will return the pictures to you at the end of term.

Deadline Friday 23rd September: Please could your child bring trainers for the inter-house cross country event that day.

Literature Festival Monday 10th of October : We are going to see the author Rob Biddulph.

PE Kit: all PE kit needs to be labelled in a clearly named bag. Please leave in school until half term. PE timetable:

1A	Mon & Thurs
1B	Weds & Thurs

Home Learning

Reading

Reading is so essential for all aspects of school life and is the main focus this year. We want to foster a love of reading and an enjoyment of books. Please read to your child as well as listening to them. Reading books are changed 3 times a week as long as the book has been finished and it has been recorded in the yellow reading diary. This is so your child gets the chance to develop fluency and practice the book again i.e. Book decoded on Monday and read for fluency on Tuesday. You may want to supplement this with home reading for enjoyment, which we would love to see recorded as well.

Spellings (Start on Monday the 19th of September.)

Spelling homework will be given out on Monday and is based on the 100 high frequency words. These are vital for your child's reading and writing. The spellings start at the beginning of this list and therefore may initially seem easy but will progress to the Year 1 tricky words. Each week there will be five words to learn and we would like the children to practise writing each word at least five times in their yellow spelling book. For a challenge they might want to use the spelling in a sentence. We will give the children an informal test the following Monday.

Phonics (Start on Monday the 19th of September.)

Each day there will be a letter formation sheet for the sound the children are learning. These sheets are print letter formation to correspond with the books they are reading. When writing the letters the children can either use print or cursive handwriting, depending on what they find easiest. After half term, the children will receive the new Phase 5 sounds in their red phonics books as well as daily sound letter formation sheets.

Creative Homework and Maths Homework

Creative and maths homework will follow later in the year because reading is the top priority at the moment.

Link Books

Please use the Home to School Link Book to let us know anything you feel we should know about your child. Year 1 TAs will check these books every day so that we are aware of any events, concerns or achievements that may have an impact on your child at school. Please don't feel obliged to write in this book, it is an extra channel of communication if it works for you. If there is anything very serious or confidential that you want to tell us, please speak directly to the class teacher. This book is not intended to replace face-to-face communication. The teachers are always around before and after school for a quick chat or we can arrange an appointment if you need longer.

Parent or grandparent Helpers!

We are always looking for parents who can offer some time to help in class by listening to children read, helping with their artwork or even putting up displays. Please let us know if you can help.