

Year 1 Autumn Curriculum Newsletter

Let me start with a warm 'hello' and to say that I am really looking forward to teaching the children in year 1! I hope that you all had a good summer holiday and are all refreshed ready to go.



Curriculum

During the Autumn Term we will continue your child's education through continuous provision. This follows the format used in EYFS, where the children will have a range of learning activities to choose from during the day, including art, role-play, construction and investigations. There will be daily Phonics sessions following on from the EYFS sessions. English and Maths skills will be taught daily through whole class sessions and small group work lead by an adult. As we move towards the Spring Term children will be ready and expected to work at tables as a whole class and as we move further into the year we will introduce more formal style lessons.

In English we will focus on pencil grips, forming letters correctly and sentence building, including punctuation and finger spaces. We will be writing for a range of reasons (stories, letters, and instructions). The children will be expected to talk about their writing and begin to check their writing makes sense. In Maths we will be learning all about numbers and their values, comparing numbers, beginning to add and subtract and identifying shapes and the associated vocabulary. Our Science themes for this term are 'Identifying Animals' and 'Everyday Materials'.



Topic

For the first half of the autumn term our Geography topic is 'Around the World'. We will be taking a whistle-stop tour of the seven continents of the world. We join Buddy the Bee as he visits a country on each continent and explores their features, people and landmarks. In the second half we will be delving back in time to discover The Great Fire of London.



Reading

Children will be asked to put their reading book and diary in the reading box each morning, so that we can see which books need to be changed. Please feel free to write any comments or questions you may have in here. We expect that all children should read at home a minimum of 5 times per week, this really benefits their progress, but if they want to read more than this then please do!



Homework

Homework will be given out on a Friday, to be returned the following Wednesday. The tasks given will relate to work we are doing in class (where possible). Please try and sit with your child while they complete their homework. This will boost their self-esteem, create a positive link between home and school and you can pick up on any misconceptions the children may have. There will be a reward for the children who regularly complete their homework and hand it in on time.



PE

PE days for the first half term will be Wednesday and Friday. Children should have both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school comprising of:

Indoor PE: White T-shirt, Black/dark shorts, Black pumps - that fit

Outdoor PE: White T-shirt, Black/dark shorts or tracksuit bottoms, Trainers - that fit, Hoodie/Sweatshirt

All PE kit should be labelled (so we can return it to the correct person should anything become lost), in separate bags and they go in your child's locker.

We would like to remind you that no jewellery should be worn for PE. Ears that are newly pierced may be covered for the first 6 weeks. After this time, children must be able to remove earrings themselves or taken out in the morning at home on PE days. This is part of our health and safety policy for all children.



It is expected that children come in through the school door in the mornings **by themselves** and that they learn to put their own coat/bags in their lockers and hand in any letters/reading books themselves. This will help with their independence and allow for a smooth start to the day. Reminders will be given to children and for the first few weeks and we accept that some children may need initial support to help this routine. Parents may send in a note from home with their child for the teacher but we ask that parents do not come into the classroom in the mornings, as this is an important time for the adults to settle the children in and initiate a classroom routine. We will have a notice board in the classroom window for updating parents/carers with information/reminders - so please look out for it when you pick up/drop off your child.

Toast money can go in a pot and the children will place their name in a pot to indicate they are having toast that day. It is preferable that all toast money comes in on a Monday for the whole week rather than daily.

As we have a sink in the classroom suitable for drinking water, we will supply plastics cups for the children to help themselves to drinks. If you wish to send in a water bottle that is fine, however we do not encourage fruit juices or flavoured drinks to be brought into the classroom. Please remember children are **not permitted to bring toys into school**.

Finally, there will be a **brief meeting for parents/carers** of children in Year 1 & 2 on **Tuesday 18th September**. This will give parents the opportunity to see their child's new teacher and to go through some of the expectations for the school year. The Year 1 & 2 LSA's have offered to stay behind and look after the children in one of the classrooms. Please note, this is not an extensive meeting and some of the information is already in this newsletter, so please don't worry if you cannot make it. We are happy to answer any questions you may have at your convenience.

Thank you for your continued support. If you wish to discuss anything with me concerning your child, please don't hesitate to come and see me after school or arrange a convenient appointment.

Thanks
Mr Wright