



Welcome to Year 1

We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 1, and provide you with some useful information about the year ahead.

Year 1 Staff

Otters: Miss Coveney (Class Teacher) Mrs Spriggs (Teaching Assistant)
Foxes: Mrs Fisher (Class Teacher) Mrs Jeffrey (Teaching Assistant)

Every other Wednesday, PPA cover will be provided by Mrs Kelleher (Otters) and Mrs Veitch (Foxes).

Year 1 Expectations

We aim to make the transition from Reception to Year One as smooth as possible. The children will be expected to come into the Year One classrooms independently. Teaching staff will always be available to help the children come in if needed. Children will also be expected to be responsible for their own belongings making sure that they organise themselves at the beginning and end of the school day.

Year 1 Curriculum

The Year one curriculum is planned around a series of subject based topics. All our topic webs are available on the school website. The children will be involved in first hand experiences with more emphasis placed on active teaching and learning. Literacy skills, guided reading and Maths will be practised every day linking to the topics where possible. Phonics will also be taught every day in groups across year one.

The children will continue to have Investigation and discovery time every day at the beginning of the year but these will reduce to once per week by term 3 to give priority to more teacher directed learning. Within these sessions, there will be a compulsory challenge based on the current learning in Literacy, Maths or topic. Children will have the choice of when to complete the challenge during the session.

Reading Books

Children will have the opportunity to change their reading books every day. Please ensure that once you have heard your child read that you sign their contact book, making it clear either which page they have reached or if they have finished the book. Parents are asked to hear their child read as regularly as they can each week. Our colour banded reading scheme is not a ladder to be climbed; the children do not have to read every book on a specific level. When the

class teacher feels they are ready to move onto another set of books, they will make the decision to send home a different level of book.

Your child will also be involved in a group guided reading lesson twice every week. During these lessons your child will be taught a wide range of reading strategies and word building skills using books tailored to their ability. The adult will write a comment in the reading record book so you can see what we have been learning and which skills the children have been focusing on.

Homework

Terms 1 and 2: home reading books and occasional learning of tricky words to read and spell for letters and sounds groups.

Term 3 onwards: reading to continue and one other piece of homework will be sent home each week. This may be Maths, Literacy or topic based. Some children will be able to complete the homework independently but many will need help.

Equipment and Resources

We provide all equipment for children in the classroom; this includes pencils, pens, rulers and scissors.

Please could you ensure that all school clothes including shoes, school bags, water bottles, snack pots are clearly labelled with your child's name.

P.E

Children will have one timetabled PE session in the hall each week and one session outside. Otters will have PE on a Tuesday and Wednesday morning and Foxes on a Monday and Wednesday morning. It is however useful for them to have their PE kit in school every day. It is essential that the PE kit should consist of a coloured house t-shirt, black or navy shorts, plimsolls, trainers and some tracksuit bottoms. **Please ensure all items are clearly named.** If your child wears earrings these should be taken out for PE. We cannot help with this so it may be a good idea for your child not to wear earrings to school on their PE days. A separate letter about jewellery has already been sent home.

Celebration Assembly

This will take place on a Monday as it did in Reception. This is a time when selected children's achievements are rewarded each week with special certificates. Every fortnight a child from each class is chosen as the Citizen of the Week and invited to a tea party with Mr. Holditch or Miss Talbot. Birthdays will be celebrated in singing assembly on a Thursday.

Year 1 will hold a 'Show and Tell' day once a term where the children may bring in an object related to our topic or a recent certificate earned outside of school to share with their class. We will send home a letter to notify you of the date for 'Show and Tell Day' nearer the time.

Healthy Snacks and Water

Children may bring fruit or a vegetable snack for morning break. On Fridays they may bring any healthy snack e.g. yoghurt or cheese. Children are only allowed water in their bottles to drink during the day in their classrooms. Replacement water bottles can be bought at the school office.

Speaking to School Staff

Children are expected to come into school independently in the morning and we will be at the door to welcome the children into class. There is always a member of staff on the playground in the mornings, usually Mr. Holditch or Miss Talbot. If you need to speak to us in the morning, you can either pass on a message via the member of staff who is on the door that morning or write a note in their contact book. We see the children out onto the playground in the afternoon and this is a better time to catch us if the need arises. Alternatively, an appointment can be made via the school office. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are concerned about anything or to inform us about important information about your child.