

Welcome to Year 1



Dear Parents,

We hope you are all having a lovely summer break. To support your child with the transition back to school we have attached a video for you to watch so you can talk about where your child will hang their belongings and so they can see what the Year 1 classroom will look like. We are really looking forward to meeting you and working with your child as we have a very exciting year ahead. Our topic for the first half term is Space.

Transition from Reception to Year 1

Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from the Foundation Stage to Key Stage 1. The Year 1 curriculum builds upon and extends the experiences that children have had in Reception. Learning will be based around an enquiry approach and the children will gradually be eased into more formal learning as the year goes on so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager learners.

Here is some information that you may find useful.

Snacks and water bottles

The children's drinks and snacks will be kept outside on the corridor on top of the trolley. Please make sure that your child's water bottle is labelled with their name. Bags and coats will be hung on their peg in the cloakroom.

PE/Uniform

PE will be on a Tuesday and Thursday. Your child will need to come to school in PE kit on those days. (This will begin on the second week back, week beginning the 7th September) Please also ensure that your child is not wearing earrings on PE days. PE sessions will be outside so jogging bottoms and a jumper will be required, as the weather turns cooler. Also, children will need to wear trainers on the day. Please ensure all uniform is appropriately labelled.

Morning routine

Children will come into the cloakroom independently. There will be a member of staff to help your child find their coat peg. The children will then wash their hands before sitting on the carpet. Once we have established a morning routine children will have a word to read on their coat peg every morning.

Reading

It is important to support your child with their reading at home. At the end of the week, your child will bring home the book that they have been practising during their RWI lessons. It is therefore expected that they should be able to read this story very well and it is being sent home to show parents how well they can read it. Children enjoy re-reading stories they know well. It improves not only their fluency but also their self-esteem. In order to reinforce the children's phonics learning we are also going to send home a second book, which is called a 'Book Bag Book'. These books correspond to the RWI Storybooks. Thus, they reinforce children's learning of phonics, helping them to make even faster progress in reading. These books will be sent home every Friday and we ask that they are returned along with the reading record on the following Wednesday. It is crucial that the books are returned promptly as they are needed for the delivery of RWI lessons. We have invested a lot of money, therefore we must ask that you take care of the books and send them back to school in the new RWI book bags.

We ask for parents to hear their child read as frequently as possible and record any comments about their reading in the home / school reading record. The reading records will be checked each week and those children who have read at home will receive a reading token, which will then be

placed into a weekly prize draw. Your child will have an allocated day when they read with Mrs Beevor or Miss Bennison in a guided group session.

Homework

Homework will be given to your child every Friday. It will be sent home in a plastic folder, which we ask the children to return on Monday with the completed homework inside. Each week the children will be asked to complete a phonics activity sheet.

Spellings - Your child will receive six spellings each week on a Friday. These spellings should be practised in preparation for a spelling test the following Friday. The spelling sheet does not need to be returned it is for your child's use. Your child may find it easier to learn their spellings in a different way rather than writing them on the sheet. You could try magnetic letters on a baking tray. Ask your child to write them on a chalkboard or outside using chalk. There is a free app you can download which is a chalkboard which children enjoy to use. If it is made fun, the children will find it easier to learn them!

Homework will begin in week 4 of the first half term.

We look forward to teaching your child in September.

Many thanks

Mrs Beevor and Miss Bennison