

# Year One News

September 2018

Welcome back to a new year, we hope you all had a good holiday and that you are looking forward to this next school year.

Over the next half term we will be gradually moving towards a more formal and structured day. We will be doing focused and directed activities in the mornings, and in the afternoons there will be more opportunities for the children to choose their own activity and sometimes use the outdoor area, but these will become less frequent as the term goes on.

## Curriculum

Our school uses a 'Creative Curriculum' approach, which will be based around the quality texts we are using in Literacy. Where possible we will be linking the learning in other areas of the curriculum with the text that we are reading. Maths and science will continue to be taught separately along with RE and PE.

### Maths

- In maths this term we will be:
- Consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 30, including counting backwards/forwards, finding one and two more/less
- Carrying out some simple addition and subtraction, looking for numbers that add together to make 10, doubling and halving, and beginning to count in 2's, 5's and 10's. We will also begin to estimate quantities up to 50.
- Learning to recognise dice and domino numbers without counting.
- Learning about money – the value of coins and choosing coins to pay for an amount and giving change.
- Learning the names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes.
- Problem solving and explaining choices.
- Measuring weight and length (including estimating)
- Ordering days of the week and months of the year.
- Beginning to record our maths work formally.
- Describing position, direction and movement.

### Science

In science this term we will be learning about changes across the seasons, including changes in plants and animals. We will observe

and describe weather associated with the season – rain, clouds, wind, temperature and how day length varies.

### RE

In RE this term we will be learning about harvest as well as festivals of light, including Christmas.

### PE

The children will have two PE sessions per week. Please make sure your child has their full PE kit in school every day, including suitable, well-fitting footwear. Earrings are not allowed to be worn during PE lessons so should not be worn on PE days which are Wednesdays and Thursdays (1RN) /Wednesdays and Fridays (1OH)

### Homework

Once the children are settled in they will be given a set of spellings to learn. Later in the year the children will be given some homework to complete each week. This may be linked to our phonics work, maths or some topic work. You will find your child's login details on the inside of their reading record which you will need for some of the homework activities.

We are currently hearing each child read individually, so as to find the best place for them to start back on the reading scheme. Do not be alarmed if we have moved your child a few books back on the reading scheme; this is just so that they get their confidence back after the long holiday, and ensures that they are enjoying their reading rather than finding it too challenging. Please remember that the scheme is not a race. Reading is about more than recognising the words and using phonic skills, it is also about fluency and comprehension. It is important to build fluency in reading as it makes the experience so much more enjoyable for your child and if children race through the scheme they will come to a stage where they no longer have the comprehension skills to understand what they are reading. Two books will be sent out each week and we would encourage you to read with your child daily. **Please note in your child's reading record when they have finished their book or they will not be changed, as we will assume your child is still reading them. Please keep the books and the reading record in your child's Book Bag every day so that we can write comments in when they have read to us. Please also read a range of picture books to your child, so they are exposed to more sophisticated story vocabulary.**

#### Show and Tell

There will be opportunities over the course of the term for children to share an item or news that is particularly special to them that will develop their speaking and listening skills (part of the English programmes of study). We shall let you know shortly which day their sharing time will be.

### Reminders

The children are being encouraged to become more independent this year. As part of this could you please encourage your child to inform their teacher if there is something in their book bag that we need to look at, as book bags are only checked on book change days.

The children are allowed to keep a bottle of water in the classroom, which they have plenty of opportunities to drink from throughout the day. Please provide your child with a plastic bottle with a sports cap which is clearly named to keep in the classroom.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are **named**. We would also recommend your child has a named art apron in school; this could be an oversized t-shirt or shirt and can be kept in their PE bags.

At the end of the day (**3:15pm**), the children will come out of the school in a line and we need to be able to see the person who is picking them up. If your child is going home with someone different to the usual person/people who collect them, could you please write it on the sheet inside the door we exit from.

If your child uses an asthma inhaler and you haven't sent **two** in yet, please do this as soon as possible. There is a medical form to be filled in at the office for this. Please check that they are in date and have plenty of medication left inside.

If you have any queries/concerns the best time to speak to us is after school. If we are unable to speak to you that day we will arrange a suitable time to meet.