

Year One Newsletter Summer 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school. We hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday and that everyone is returning to school refreshed and ready for the new term. During the summer term we will continue to focus on the children's well-being, social and communication skills, as well as encouraging the children to be as independent as possible. We will prepare the children for their move to Year 2 and they will get to know Year 2 staff.

As the weather gets hotter, please make sure that your child has a sunhat in school and that sun cream has been applied at the start of the day.

Learning through play

Children will continue to spend some of the day following their own interests in play. They will be able to explore areas such as water, construction, small world and workshop in the classroom, with bigger and more physical play encouraged outside. Through play, children learn vital skills such as sharing, negotiation, perseverance and resilience. There will be more emphasis on recording what they have been learning using writing, pictures, maps and diagrams.

Focus Children, Observations and Parent meetings

The system of weekly focus children and a meeting with parents/carers the following week is finished for the year. You will receive a written report about your child's progress in Year 1 in July. If you would like to meet to discuss anything, please let me know and we will arrange a suitable day and time.



Reading

Our aim is to foster a love of books and reading for enjoyment and information and we will continue to share stories at school. Reading stories to your child is a great way to increase their vocabulary and understanding. Year 1 will **visit the library every Wednesday afternoon**, when they will be able to change their library book. Don't expect children to be able to read this book to you, though some may be able to read parts. This book is intended to foster a love of reading and to promote talking about stories or information. Children will also bring home a book from our reading scheme. They will have read the book 3 times at school during the week, so should be able to read most of it with little or no help from you. If they struggle with a word, it's fine to help them sound it out or tell them what it says. We send this book home so that the children can show off their increasing confidence and skill, so do celebrate their achievements.

Phonics Screening Check (PSC)

The PSC is a statutory test which all children in Year 1 take during the week beginning 10th June. It is helpful in assessing which phonics children are able to use. It will be delivered by a familiar adult in a relaxed environment with lots of praise for their effort. It is similar to our usual half-termly phonics assessments, so the children won't notice anything very different. They will not be told how they did. You will receive notification of their result with the written report in July. If a child does not pass the check, they will be given extra support in Year 2 and will take the PSC again at the end of Year 2. Our phonics sessions this term will review all the phonics taught so far. This will help the children consolidate their skills in preparation for the PSC.

Maths

Maths this term will cover numbers to 100, simple multiplication and division, time, money, position and direction, halves and quarters. We will continue to use lots of practical activities, real objects and games to help children embed mathematical concepts. Talking about maths and explaining what you know, why and how, is a vital part of maths learning and something that it is very easy to help with at home.

Science

The children will be learning about plants. They will learn the names of some common plants and trees as well as the names of parts of plants and their functions. We will be doing some gardening and exploring ideal conditions for growing.

Topic

Our topic this term is **Journeys** which we will be exploring through stories, games and trips. Children will be learning about the United Kingdom, its four countries and their capitals.

Religious Education

Year 1 will be exploring what it means to belong to a faith community and look at similarities and differences between religions.

Jigsaw (Personal, Social and Health Education)

Our Jigsaw theme this half term is **Relationships**; next half term's theme is **Changing Me**. We explore children's ideas through circle time, games and discussions.

Physical Education

Year 1 will continue to have PE on **Fridays**. They will also have rugby sessions on Tuesday afternoons for the first 6 weeks of term. Please can all children now leave their PE kit in school all week so that they can change into it when necessary.

Please check your child has the following items in a **named** PE bag for indoor and outdoor activities:

- white t-shirt
- dark shorts **and** jogging bottoms
- dark sweatshirt
- socks
- spare pants
- trainers
- spare hair bobbles

Stud earrings should be removed or taped up. Please provide micropore tape for this. We cannot stress enough how important it is for your child to have **all** their clothes and shoes clearly **named**. This makes them so much more confident and independent and means you get them back if they are misplaced.

Forest School

Year 1 forest school sessions are on **Wednesday afternoons**.

The children will need clothes appropriate for the weather:

- wellington boots or old trainers
- waterproof trousers
- waterproof coat with hood



If the weather is very warm and children would be too hot in waterproofs, they can bring old clothes to change into. It is still important that arms and legs are covered to protect from scratches and insect bites.

Wellies may be kept on the wooden rack outside the classroom and waterproofs etc in lockers, but if you prefer to take them home each week please do remember to bring them back the following Wednesday. Remember to name everything so that mislaid items can be returned to the right person.

Things to remember:

- School starts at **8:40am**. The cloakroom door will close at **8.50am prompt**. A member of staff will be at the door to welcome children.
- We have fruit and water freely available for the children throughout the day. If you would like your child to have milk, please visit www.coolmilk.com to set up payment.
- Children should have a book bag/plastic wallet to keep their reading book in good condition.
- School finishes at **3:15pm**.
- If your child is going home with someone who is not on your list of adults collecting please write it in their planner and ensure an adult knows.
- Please let us know if you wish to add adults to the list of who can collect our child.

Quick messages can be passed on when you drop off or pick up your child or you can arrange to speak to us in person or by phone if you would like. If you have any questions or concerns, you can email any time. We are really looking forward to another term with the class and to watching all their continuing progress.

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Dates for Diaries

More details of events to follow nearer the time

Monday 6th May School closed for Early May Bank Holiday

Friday 17th May Class photos

Thursday 23rd May School closes for half term (Friday 24th May Training day)

Monday 3rd June School reopens

Week beginning Monday 10th June Phonics Screening Check

Friday 21st June FOLD Summer Fair

Week beginning 24th June Outdoor Week

Friday 28th June Fun Sports Morning

Monday 1st July 2.15pm Phase 1 Races (families invited)

Thursday 11th July 2.45pm Year 1 End of Topic Celebration

Friday 12th July Reports out to families

Monday 15th July Phase 1 trip to Bridlington (to be confirmed)

Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th July Transition Days (Year 1 will go up to Year 2)

Friday 19th July School closes for summer holidays