**Autumn 1 Newsletter - Year One**

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have all managed to have a lovely summer holiday. I can’t wait to hear all about what the children have been up to over the holidays!😊

This term we will be having a transition period from Reception to help the children ease into Year One. This means the room will look a little similar to the Reception room with spaces to play, read and create. The children will still have a lot of free choice time to access the provision, but we will also be doing some whole class lessons.

Initially, we will have a big focus on PSHE (personal, social, health and economic education) as we want to make sure all the children are happy and feel safe and secure coming back to school. I will be talking to the children about their emotions and asking them to “check in” each day to say how they are feeling, as I want to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

**Reading and homework**

All children need to read **at home at least 4 times per week.** This *does not* include any sessions where they read in school. Reading diaries will be checked on a Monday and if the children do not read 4 times at home per week, they will not be able to take part in our class reading treat at the end of the term. Reading books will be changed regularly, however, in school we have a focus on reading fluently so this may mean that books need to be re-read more than once at home. Our author for this half term is Jill Murphy – famous for the Large Family stories, Peace at Last and Whatever Next.

Homework will be as follows:

* 20 Minutes minimum on Numbots per week – this is monitored.
* Weekly spell check – words to be sent home with more info.
* Reading 4 times a week at home recorded in diaries, minimum.

**Subjects**

In Maths, we will be thinking about place value and securing our knowledge of numbers from 0 – 10. We will also be doing lots of oral practice of counting forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Our English lessons will focus on punctuation and understanding the importance of capital letters, finger spaces and full stops, as well as writing lists and adding captions to pictures. We will also be learning some of the YR1 common exception words as well as new phonics sounds and the alphabet. It would be very helpful if you could practise these at home regularly in addition to listening to your child read.

During our Geography lessons, we will be looking at the features of the local area as well as spotting signs that the seasons are changing to Autumn.

Science will focus on naming parts of the body and investigating what our different senses do. Whilst in History, we will be looking at the importance of the canal in Scholar Green throughout time.

This year we will also have a big focus on outdoor learning in our lovely area outside the classroom. Activities will be set up daily by staff in school, so we politely ask that you refrain from letting your children play on the outdoor equipment before and after school.

**PE**

Year 1 PE days will be Tuesday and Thursday. On these days, children need to come to school dressed in their school PE kits and they must be wearing footwear that is suitable for PE e.g. pumps or trainers. Please also make sure that on PE days your child’s hair is tied back if it is long and no jewellery or watches are worn. Also, please make sure all items of your child’s clothing, including their shoes are name (initials can be written inside) as the children can not always identify their own belongings.

Each day at lunchtime, Mrs Kirk will be running PE clubs on the playground or field. These will change on a weekly basis and there will be no need to sign up in advance. Children will be able to join in as and when they would like to. To take part children will need their trainers only, but you may prefer to send your child into school in their PE kit on those days. KS1 clubs will be on Monday and Wednesday. Friday will always be running club and will be for both KS1 and KS2.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me. I look forward to working with you and your children this school year!😊

Many thanks,

Miss Hancock

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