

Welcome

Your child is now in Key Stage 1 (which consists of year 1 and year 2). Here is some information that you may find useful. If you have any other questions please do not hesitate to see your child's class teacher.

Staff:

Class 1HJ is taught by Miss Jowett (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings), Mrs Holden (Wednesday afternoons, Thursday mornings and Fridays) and Mrs Burton (Thursday afternoons). The main Teaching Assistant for the class is Mrs Halford.

Class 1LH is taught by Mrs Hill and Mrs Lane (Thursday afternoons). The main teaching assistant for the class is Mrs Arya.

The Key Stage 1 Phase Leader is Mrs Alba (who teaches Class 2CA).

Timings:

It is very important that children attend school regularly and are punctual. School gates open at 8.30, classroom doors open at 8.40. Please ensure that the children are in the playground before 8.45 so they are settled before register time which is 8.50.

Home time is 3.05.

Safeguarding:

If someone different is going to pick your child up from school please inform the school office or class teacher. We will not be able to let your child go with them unless this has been done. For safeguarding reasons parents are not allowed into the corridors or toilets. This also applies if you bring your child in late. Thank you for your cooperation.

Uniform:

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL CLOTHING IS CLEARLY NAMED.

All children should be dressed in school uniform. The school uniform is as follows:

- **Bright blue sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece -**
- **Black or grey trousers, skirts or pinafore dresses** (no jeans, including black denim)
- **A white or blue polo shirt, blouse or shirt** (with or without school logos)
- **Black sensible shoes or black ankle boots** (no high-tops, sandals or heels)
- **Black or grey plain socks, tights or leggings**
- In summer, girls may wear blue school dresses
- No jewellery apart from small, discrete stud earrings and for religious reasons
- Hair will be dye free and make up is not allowed including nail varnish

In addition, all pupils must have a P.E. kit (in a named bag) in school consisting of:

- **Black/blue shorts** and or jogging bottoms
- White T-shirt (or blue with the school badge)
- Socks (white, black or grey)
- Plimsolls or trainers

Long hair must be tied back for PE and earrings removed.

Class 1HJ has PE on Wednesdays and Fridays. Class 1LH has PE on Monday and Wednesday. It is important that children have their PE kit in school EVERY DAY.

Please teach your child to dress and undress independently. Please don't give your child lace up shoes if they cannot do laces by themselves.

Assemblies: Each class will do a class assembly this year, which parents are invited to attend. Details of dates will be on the school website. Celebration Assembly will be on a Friday at 9am. If your child is in the Celebration Assembly we will let you know in advance.

Dinner times: Teaching staff do not go into dinner with the children. However if you have a concern about dinner times we can ask dinner staff to look into it. Please let the office know if you wish to swap from school dinner/packed lunch.

Curriculum: Please look at the school website for the outline of the topics we will cover over the year. There will also be more detailed information about what we will cover each half-term. We are hoping to do our school trip in the spring term. More details to follow.

Maths: We follow a scheme called White Rose, which places a lot of importance on reasoning and problem solving. We also do 'mad maths minutes' which focus on mental fluency.

English: We focus a great deal on phonics in year 1. There is a phonics reading test for Year 1 children in June.

We also focus on developing good speaking and listening skills, particularly on the ability to speak in full sentences.

Handwriting will also be an important area. We will work on fluent, neat letter formation and correct pencil grip. We use lower case letters except for the start of names, sentences etc.

We will read books together as a whole class (shared reading) and in small groups (guided reading). The children's reading will be assessed regularly to ensure that they are being given the correct level of reading book. Please note that the reading assessment looks at how well children can answer questions about what they have read as well as how well they can 'decode' the words. Children's decoding skills are often ahead of their comprehension skills.

At the start of Year 1 we run the school day in a way that is quite similar to the Foundation stage classroom, however after a short time the teaching will become more 'formal' with whole class lessons.

Supporting your child's learning at home: It will really benefit your child if you can help them with learning at home. The most important thing is to be **positive** and **patient**. Don't worry if your child doesn't learn something straight away! Keep sessions short and snappy. Little and often is best.

Reading:

There will usually be two books in your child's book bag, a reading book for them to read to you and a library book for you to read to them. **Both** reading activities are important in helping your child learn to read. Please find a short time daily to support your child with reading. Please keep the books safe, away from younger children. Damaged books will be charged for. Children can change **one** or **both** of their books daily. There is also a reading diary in the book bag which you can use to record the books that your child has read. If there is a problem with a book please see the teacher so that we can address this.

Sight words:

Many children will be given sets of words to learn. We call these 'sight words'. These words need to be recognized as whole words rather than 'sounded out'. When your child has learned all the words in a set they will get a certificate and a new set of words. Please spend a few minutes practising these words

Phonics:

When we are doing new learning in phonics there will be daily phonics practice sheets sent home with words and sentences to read. **These do not need to be returned to school.**

Handwriting: There will also be handwriting practice sometimes. Please return the completed work by **Thursday**.

Maths: There will be maths homework most weeks. Please return the completed work by **Thursday** each week.

Family Challenge: There will be a family challenge homework activity that will be set each half term with a prize for the winning entry! Details to follow.

How else can you help?

- Please let staff know of anything that happens at home that may impact on your child's behaviour/ability to learn at school.
- Please ensure that your child gets enough sleep and eats healthily. If you have any concerns please see the school nurse. (Number available from the office).
- Limit screen time, especially before bedtime.
- Talk to your child in your first language!
- Invite friends round for play dates.
- Please visit an optician to have your child's vision tested. This is not done in school.

Problems/Concerns

If you have any problems or concerns, please discuss them with your child's teacher. Sometimes issues can be dealt with at the classroom door, however if you need a longer chat it is best to arrange to see the teacher after school. If the problem is not resolved then please contact Mrs Alba.

Suggestions:

The school is intending to hold workshops for parents later in the year. Please let us know what would be helpful to you.

We look forward to having a great year with your child!!

Year 1 staff