

Dear Parents and Carers, A very warm welcome to Year One!

PE and Outdoor Learning:

PE lessons will be on Mondays but the children will need their kit in school at all times.

(No swimming kit is needed until the summer term).

PE Kits should include shorts, t-shirt and trainers or daps. (Trousers and a jumper can be good for outside PE too).

If the children require any outdoor learning clothes we will let you know in advance but please make sure the children have a coat as the weather gets colder.



Please could you ensure that your child's uniform and PE kits are labelled with their name to avoid any mix-ups.



Curriculum:

Our theme this term is 'Superheroes'. On the website is our topic web for the term. This outlines all our intended learning plus some fun ideas to try at home.

Independence:

In Reception the children were encouraged to be as independent as possible. This is a theme we continue to develop in Year One. This includes lining up on their own when the whistle goes, carrying their own bags and being able to put on/take off their coats independently.

The children also get changed independently at PE times, so if this is something they struggle with perhaps you could encourage them to get changed independently in the morning or at bedtime as this all helps with their development. Thank you!

Parent Support: In Year One, as in the rest of the school, parents are one of the most valuable resource we have. We appreciate all the work you do at home including things like bringing and collecting your child on time, reading at home, and generally turning them into the special individuals that they are. If you feel you have any spare time at all and would like to help out in school, here are ways you can support us either ad-hoc or on regular basis:

- *Reading with individual children
- *Library helper – changing library books
- *School trips

Please speak to any of us if you would like to help.

Phonics:

Phonics is a huge part of our Year One learning. Later in the school year we will hold an information session for you all about phonics and the screening test that the children complete in June.

For now, we will be learning around four new sounds a week that we will send home on a Friday for you to read and practice with your child as part of their homework folder.



Key Word Spellings:

Every year group in the school has a list of 'non-negotiable' spellings. This term our words are:

**I a the we me be
he she is his**

Each Friday these words will be sent home on a spelling sheet in their homework folder. Two words will be highlighted and they will be the focus for that week and tested on the Friday. The test is very relaxed, it is just so we can see how the children are getting on. At the end of each half term we will be testing the children on all the words to see if they can spell them.

To practice at home please start by reading them, then move on to spelling. The children could write them on paper, in the air with their finger, on your back with their finger or even in the bath water!

Homework

- Homework Folder every Friday.
Each child will have a homework folder that we will put a sheet in each Friday. This is voluntary homework and is not marked (although the children are welcome to show us if they want to). It will only be work based on the weeks learning (either phonics or maths) so should not be anything new to the children.
- Reading 3 times a week (see below)
- Spellings (spelling test on Fridays)

Thank you for your support in their learning, it really does make a difference!

Reading:

The children will continue to have a yellow reading diary that they will keep in their book bags. Children will have the opportunity to change their reading books most mornings but will be reminded on Mondays and Thursdays. We will encourage the children to become independent with this but obviously we will keep a close eye on it and make sure children are regularly changing their books. Each child will be heard read at school at least once a week but it really helps your child's reading development if you continue to read with your child at home too, this should be **at least 3 times a week**. – This will help us win the school reading challenge!

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILDS READING BOOKS ARE IN THEIR BOOK BAGS EVERY DAY.

WOW: Inside your child's homework folder we shall place some WOW slips. These are for you to let us know of any WOW moments at home. It could be anything from learning to ride a bike to helping wash the dishes. In class we have a WOW wall (with envelopes) where we track these great moments and learning happens everywhere so we don't want to miss a thing. The children also get a house point for any Wow voucher.

This term the value is: **Friendship**

And finally...

We are really looking forward to working with your children this year. We would like you to know that if there are ever any questions or problems (big or small) that you would like to talk to us about, please come and find us as our door is always open! We are always available for a quick chat at the end of the day or, if needed, make an appointment through the school office at your convenience. Thank you!

YEAR ONE TEACHERS: Mrs Bullingham (Tuesday - Friday) Mrs Walker (Monday) Mrs Jackson (Monday – Thursday)