

## Class 1 Newsletter Spring 2024

I hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas Holiday. This newsletter should give you some general information for the year and also information about the topics which the children will be working on in the next term.

### General Information

- PE will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday; children should come into school wearing their PE kits on these days.
- All children will have forest schools on a Friday and will need appropriate clothing for both. They should come to school in shoes appropriate for indoors and wellies to change into. As we are in the depths of winter now, please provide children with gloves, hats and scarves as we do forest schools in all weather, including rain, ice and snow.
- The children will need to bring reading books and records into school every day so that we can listen to them read. These should be taken home and daily reading at home should be recorded in the reading records. Key words and phonics sounds will also be sent home so that the children can practise them alongside their reading. Children who read 3 times per week will have a star on our class chart and be able to choose a prize each week.
- Year 1 homework and spellings go out on a Tuesday. Please return them by Monday each week.
- Water bottles must contain water and be bought in each day. They can be left on the shelves in the cloak room. The children will be offered snack (fruit) for morning break but can bring an extra piece of fruit if they would like. It would be helpful to put softer fruits in a container if possible.

### Topic

This term our topic is 'Our Wonderful World'. We are learning all about our world including the UK, its 4 countries and seas.

### Literacy

We will be looking at narrative this term. We will be writing stories based on the story 'The Disgusting Sandwich'. The children will work towards individual writing targets throughout the year. Shared and guided reading groups will take place regularly in class in addition to individual reading. The children will have the opportunity to practise their handwriting on a regular basis.

## Phonics

The children will be split into two groups for phonics; reception and year one. The children will work through the Little Wandle and will learn using practical and interactive activities. There are phonics pages in the centre of their reading records so that they can practise at home. There will be a phonics test at the end of year one. For more information about phonics please visit the class one section of the school website.

## Reading and Key words

In the early years/KS1 it is important that the children read as often as possible. In school the children will read in 3 group reading sessions where the children will decode, use prosody and complete comprehension questions. To support reading development it is also important that you hear your child read at least 3 times a week at home so that we can work together to support your child. This reading should be recorded in the children's reading records. I will also send home a list of key words and flash cards. These are the words that we expect the children to be able to read by sight by the end of the year. It would be helpful to choose a few of these to focus on each time you read with your child.

Ideas for practicing key words at home:

- Flashcards
- Display them in a place where your child will see them regularly.
- Make them with magnetic letters.
- Write them down.
- Play games with them e.g. pairs/snap etc. (Let me know if you need any extra photocopies!)
- Draw your child's attention to them when reading e.g. can you point to the word "the" on this page.

The sooner these are learnt the easier your child will find it to learn to read.

## Maths

This term we will be focusing on number skills. Some of the areas we will cover will be;

Reception:

- Counting to 10 and then 20
- Counting out an amount of objects
- Ordering numbers according to their size

- Reading and writing the numbers to 10 and then 20
- Adding together 2 numbers using objects
- Taking away from a number using objects

Year 1:

- Place value to 20
- Addition and subtraction within 20
- Multiplication and division (counting in 2's, 5's and 10's and understanding groups of)

The calculation policy is on the website and gives more information on the methods used in class.

### **Homework**

Reception homework is to practise their reading books and a few key words at home each day.

The children in year one will be set homework on a Tuesday. There will be spellings to practise and then either a writing or a maths sheet to complete.

### **Support staff in class one**

The LSA's working in class one are Mrs Davis and Miss Moore

As always if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to grab me after school for a chat!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Gemma Watson

Class 1 Teacher