

# Welcome to Year 1

Year 1 is an exciting year, full of rich learning opportunities and stimulating play. Below is a guide to how we operate differently from Early Years. We hope you find it useful.

## **Start of the day**

We encourage the children to come into the classroom and put their lunchbox and book bags away independently.

From 8.35 to 8.50am, the children can choose a new reading book and have some choosing time which eventually will become reading time in preparation for Year 2. We would love to have parent helpers during this time to listen to different children read. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you are able to help.

## **Reading**

The reading diaries from the Early Years classes have been passed onto year 1 and we continue with the same reading scheme. Each level has a different fruit or vegetable name.

## **Morning Break**

All year 1 and year 2 children have a morning break time every day on the bottom playground, from 10.15 to 10.30am. This is a lovely time for children from the different classes to play together.

## **Fruit**

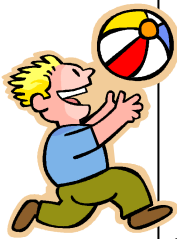
A piece of fruit is provided for your child every day. This is eaten at about 10.30am, when the children come in from break. You are welcome to provide your child with extra fruit to eat at break time, but you do not need to bring in fruit to share with the class.

## **Toys**

We love to see any books or items that are linked to the current topic. However, please do not allow your child to bring in any other toys from home. We cannot be responsible for any lost toys.

## **PE Lessons**

We have two PE lessons every week. One is an indoor and the other is an outdoor lesson. Please check that your child's PE kit and trainers still fit them, and that each item is named. We will send their kit home every half term to be washed and this is a good time to check that there are no missing items.



### **Structure of the day**

Children now stay in their own classroom rather than having free-flow between classes, although there will be free flow between their own class and the outside area. There will be a teaching assistant in the class to support the children's learning every morning. Whereas a lot of the activities were taught in small groups in the Early Years, in Year 1, the whole class often takes part in the activity at the same time, e.g. art work, computing, faith and wonder or science investigations. Children still have opportunities for free choosing time, but there will also be more adult directed activities, particularly during English and Maths lessons.



### **Wet weather**

As the winter months approach we will still be using our outside area. For the children to access this they will need to have in school a wet weather coat and wellies. Please make sure these are clearly labelled.

### **And finally....**

It probably seems as if your child's first year has gone by very quickly and Year 1 may seem like a big step. However, they still have lots of opportunities to learn through play and they will continue to develop their independence. We look forward to working with your family this year.

Miss Wilson, Mrs Hendrick & Mrs Love

