

# 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.

Children can filter in from 8:30 and the register is at 8:40. A little later on in the term, 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.

## Toys

We love to see any items that are linked to the current topic. However, please do not allow your child to bring in any other toys from home. This is to ensure that precious things don't get lost or broken.

## Reading

The reading diaries from the Early Years classes have been passed onto year 1 and we will be sending these home along with new ones. We continue with the same reading scheme and as children learn new sounds, they will move to the corresponding level. After every 5 reads, each child will receive a sticker in their diary and after every 30 reads, a prize will be given.

## 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 both classes within the outside area. There will be a teaching assistant in the class to support the children's learning. Whereas a lot of the activities were taught in small groups in Early Years, in Year 1, the whole class will sometimes take part in the activity at the same time, e.g. art work, computing, faith and wonder or science investigations. Children still have opportunities for continuous provision time both indoors and outdoors, but there will also be more adult directed activities, particularly during English and Maths lessons.

## Fruit

A piece of fruit is provided for your child every day. Just like in Early Years, we have a 'rolling snack', meaning that your child can choose to independently have their snack at any time during the morning. This is closely monitored to ensure every child has a snack and is eating it safely. You are welcome to provide your child with extra fruit for during the morning if you wish.

## Playtimes

This week, the Year one children have ventured out onto the playground with the Year 2 children at lunch time play. In the summer, they will be on the field with all years.

### PE Lessons

We have two PE lessons every week on a Wednesday and a Thursday. 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.

### 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. Please make sure these are clearly labelled.

### Book Bags

Unfortunately, we do not have space for big rucksacks on your child's peg so please bring book bags, water bottles and lunch bags separately. It is extra important that your child's water bottle and snack is carried separately to ensure there are no leakages!

### Meet the Teacher

Please join us at 2:30pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September for an informal chat and overview of the learning opportunities and routines in Year 1.

### Homework

In Year 1, we introduce the children to homework. Each week on a Friday, homework will be sent out. This is compiled of 4-6 spellings, reading practice and a maths activity. Homework is to be returned the following Friday.

### 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, the children still have lots of opportunities to learn through play and they will continue to develop their independence, all whilst having great fun!

We look forward to working with your family this year!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

*The Year 1 Team*

### Class Contact Details

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