

2017-2018

# Welcome to Year One!

Hello and welcome to Year One. We hope you had a fantastic summer holidays and you are ready for another great year at school. The Year One team consists of Miss Kitching (class teacher), Mrs Gear and Mrs Kitson.

## Home Learning

**Reading:** Books will be changed every day. The children will need to become independent and hand in their book, even if they haven't finished please bring it in anyway. Comments in the reading record about how your child read and their understanding of the book would be fantastic. Your child will have many opportunities to read in school too. They will read to our wonderful volunteer helpers and within phonics and guided reading sessions. The expectation is for children to read everyday at home either with a parent or older sibling.

**Key words:** Your child will continue to be tested on their key words following on from Reception, I have stuck in a help sheet into the new key word books. Confidence with key words can have a great effect on the children's abilities to read and spell with fluency. Each child will bring home a 'Key words' book with their next list of words to read or spell. Key words will then be tested each Monday afternoon and a note will be made of any words that your child may have struggled with. The children will then move on to the next list. Please ensure that the key word books are kept in your child's book bag.

**Home learning books:** In the front of the home learning book there will be information regarding our latest topic and opportunities for home learning. The home learning can be recorded in a range of ways so please take a look and ask if you have any questions. Topic related home learning is optional, however these books will need to be handed in every Friday.

**Big Maths:** Children will be tested number facts in school, the test sheet will be stuck into home learning books so that any incorrect number sums can be practiced at home. The children need to know these from memory rather than spending time calculating the answer.

## Learning in Year One

We have worked closely with Miss Hodson to ensure a smooth transition from the Foundation Stage Curriculum to the Key Stage One Curriculum. The first two terms combine aspects of both curriculums to cater for the needs of all the children in the class. Year One is an important year for children to develop independent learning skills through a range of activities.

## What to bring to school each day?

- Book bag
- Reading record (with reading book)
- Key words book
- Water bottle
- Home learning book (on Fridays)

## PE

PE sessions will take place throughout the week. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit and all items of PE kit are named. For PE sessions hair should be tied up and earrings covered.

## Welly Boots

We have lots of fun activities planned for the children to complete in the woods! So that we can get down to the woods whatever the weather please could you send your child into school with a pair of **named** welly boots that can be kept in school throughout the year in the stand by the Year One door.

## Water Bottles

Although cups and water are always available, please could children bring a named water bottle to school with them. This makes snack time and drinks throughout the day much easier.

## Book Bags

All paper correspondence with the school will be put in book bags and we will encourage children to empty trays each day. Please check inside your child's book bag every day to make sure you get all the information you need. There is also a white board to the right of the Year One classroom door where I will write notices and reminders, so keep a look out!

## Discussions with teachers

Before and after school are busy times of day in the Year One classroom! Teachers are generally available for brief discussions with parents or carers but please note that it may not always be possible (on duty and meeting days). As a school we believe that the home- school link is incredibly important to your child's development so you are welcome to make an appointment for a longer chat if you have any concerns or questions.

In order to develop the children's independent skills and encourage them to settle into the morning activity quickly, it would be appreciated if parents and carers could say goodbye to their children at the door.

**Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to getting to know both you and your child over the next few weeks. Please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff if you have any questions.**