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Head teacher: Mr. C. Gibson

September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 1

We would like to wish you all a very warm welcome back to school and to the start of an exciting year. This half term in English, we will be looking at a range of Julia Donaldson Stories and this unit of work will support the children in developing their basic writing skills and teaching them how to write short narratives. Our geography topic is 'All around our school' and we will be exploring our school and the local area. In maths, we will be enhancing their understanding of place value and number and encouraging them to secure their number knowledge beyond 20. We will be taking an in depth look into everyday materials in Science and discovering what their uses are.

Phonics is a key focus for Year 1 and we will be working daily on delivering the Little Wandle programme. Little Wandle is a systematic approach to teaching phonics and gradually your child will learn the entire alphabetic code. In line with this, your child will also bring home weekly spellings; these will be sent home on a Monday and tested the following Monday.

Reading will be taught in three different sessions across the week in school; these include decoding, prosody and comprehension. Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home:

A reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. (This will be sent home on a Friday and returned to school on a Monday)

A reading for pleasure book. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together. (This will be sent home on a Monday and should be returned the following Monday)

We would politely ask that the children come dressed in their PE kits on the days they have PE, the children are not required to bring any PE bags into school as they will already wearing their PE kit which consists of white t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms/ leggings and their school jumper.

Your child will have PE following day:

Year 1 - Mrs Leather – Tuesday & Thursday

Year 1 - Mrs Hawthorne – Tuesday & Thursday

Swimming will take place in the summer term:

Year 1 – Mrs Hawthorne – 1.5.24, 8.5.24, 15.5.24, 22.5.24 & 5.6.24

Year 1 – Mrs Leather – 12.6.24, 19.6.24, 26.6.24, 3.7.24 & 10.7.24

Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you all!

Mrs Leather and Mrs Hawthorne
Year 1 teachers