

YEAR 1 AND 2 AUTUMN 1 NEWSLETTER 2018

A big 'Welcome Back' to all our Year 2 children, and a big 'Welcome' to the Year 1 children, who have now joined us in KS1. All the children have settled into their new classes really well. ☺

Please keep this newsletter safe as it has some important dates/ information in it which will help you to know what is happening this term.

The Year 1/2 team is made up of the following members of staff:

Miss Clutterbuck- Department lead and teacher of Deer Class.

Mrs Fildes- Teacher of Badger Class

Mrs Wilderspin- Teacher of Hedgehog Class

Mrs Hanson and Miss Marshall Clarke- Job share teachers in Rabbit Class

We have five wonderful Teaching Assistants within the department; Mrs Bamford, Mrs Hand, Mrs Perry, Mrs Moore and Mrs Swift.

Mrs Bamford will also be covering in Badgers, Rabbits and Hedgehogs when the teachers have their planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time. Mrs Hanson (Higher Level Teaching Assistant) will be covering in Deer class.

Miss Marshall-Clarke will teach Deer Class on Mondays, when she releases Miss Clutterbuck.

Topic

Our topic this term is Animals. We are really excited about this topic as we know that the children will really enjoy learning about different animals around the world, considering what animals need. Our books used in English lessons will usually be connected to this theme.

Our first themed day is planned for Thursday 27th September. Your child should come to school dressed as any animal. They will be carrying out activities across the four classes.

Pet Owners Wanted!

Wednesday 24th October we would like to have some visitors in school to talk to the children about their pets. If you have a (well behaved) pet and would be willing to bring it in, please let a member of the team know. We will then sort out a plan once we know who may be visiting. Thank you!



Could you help out with Year 2 Science?

This term in Science our Year 2s will be learning about Animals and Humans. As part of their learning they will be looking at how babies grow into children and here we need your help! If you are pregnant, have a baby or toddler at home we would love you and your little one to come and answer some questions the children have and talk about looking after a young child. Don't worry -we promise that all questions will be vetted by the teachers!! We are hoping to run this science session on the afternoon of Thursday 20th September at 13:45, and you should be free to go by 14:15. If you or someone in your family could help out please speak to the Y2 staff. Thank you in advance.

When will homework be sent home?

Each fortnight your child will take home a homework book and a piece of homework. Please help your child with this work in order to get the best out of it.

Within a term your child will take home one English, one Maths and one Topic based piece of homework.

Once completed please stick the sheet into your child's book. This will really help your child as it will prevent the homework from being lost. Your child has one week in which to complete the work, unless stated otherwise.

When will my child do P.E?

Deer and Badgers: Monday and Friday

Hedgehogs: Monday and Friday

Rabbits: Monday and Tuesday

Please ensure long hair is tied up, no jewellery. Full kit must be kept in school and will be sent home for washing at the end of each term.

It would be really helpful if your child can tie their own laces as this will help to reduce their stress.

Year 2 Information

The Year 2 children will take part in the SATs where their reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG), Maths abilities will be tested. Writing and Science will also be assessed. SATs will take place in the later part of the year, therefore more information, including a meeting will be arranged nearer the time. Year 2 SATs are very different to the Year 6 SATs. They are much more 'low key' in Year 2 and only form part of the teachers' assessments. We do not refer to them as SATs or 'tests' with the children and therefore request that they are not referred to at home.

Something which has become an annual feature of Year 2 is the residential to Lea Green. As the children from previous years have stated this is great fun and creates memories that the children will always remember. This year the trip will take place Thursday 20th June- Friday 21st June 2018. Lots more information will be shared nearer the time.

Towards the end of the term Year 2 children will take part in Sex and Relationship (SRE) lessons. If you do not want your child to take part, please put this in writing to your child's class teacher.

Year 1 Information

In June 2018 the Year 1 children will take the National Phonics Screening Check, along with any Year 2 who did not pass last year.

More information will be sent regarding this screening check, along with how we support the children through the Letters and Sounds programme and how you can help at home. Keep an eye on the website, where we will upload blogs.

Buried Treasure- Home Activity

Every Friday the children in Year 1, along with some Year 2 children, will take home some words on a coin sheet. Please cut these coins out and encourage your child to sound and blend the words. They then need to decide if the word is real and can be placed on the treasure box, or fake and be placed on the rubbish bin. These need to be kept at home for your child to practise and build up his/her reading skills. If you need any more info, please ask a member of staff.

Diary Dates

| Week | Exciting events! |
|---------------|--|
| 1 3.9.18 | Starting in new class 4.9.18 |
| 2 10.9.18 | |
| 3 17.9.18 | |
| 4 24.9.18 | 27 th September- Animal Dress up- come dressed as any animal |
| 5 1.10.18 | |
| 6 8.10.18 | Harvest festivals |
| 7 15.10.18 | |
| 8 22.10.18 | Whole school parent consultations- 22.10.18 and 25.10.18 Visitors with pets: Wednesday 24 th October |

Home Computing- Purple Mash

Over the next couple of weeks Miss Marshall-Clarke will be busy preparing new passwords for all the children to be able to access a brilliant website, Purple Mash. We use this within our computing lessons in school as it has a massive range of computing activities set at the appropriate ages for the children to develop their computing skills such as creating spreadsheets, coding and learning about how to use the internet safely.

Once the usernames and passwords have been set a copy will be sent home for your child to access the site. This is free for the children to use. Sometimes teachers may set '2 do' tasks for your children to complete at home. When these are set a text message will be sent so that you are aware of the new activities. More information about how to access the site will be sent by Miss Marshall-Clarke over the next couple of weeks.

Last year the children enjoyed accessing the site at home and felt very proud when we could share their work on the interactive whiteboard in the classroom.

General Reminders

Water bottles- these must be filled at home and brought to school every day. Please ensure only water in the bottles as juice is not permitted.

Labels- When changing for PE we have noticed that some children do not have their names in all items of their clothing, this can lead to upset as the children are not sure which t-shirt belongs to them. Please help us to help your child by making sure all items have names in.

When will my child read?

Children will take part in Guided Reading, usually weekly. This entails your child reading a set book within a group with the teacher/ TA.

Your child will have been given their reading book along with the reading record. This is a home reading book. Occasionally your child may read their book in school, however the emphasis is for your child to read this book at home. Please write 'NEW BOOK PLEASE' when your child is ready for a new book as the children will only change their books when it is clear that it has been completed at home. An exciting new reward system has been set up this year- find out more by reading all about the reading bugs!

Library books will also be chosen by your child weekly and will need to be returned the following week, ready for a new one.

Reading Bugs

This year KS1 are trialing a new Reading Reward scheme to get more children reading frequently at home. Each week that your child reads their reading book at home they will get to add an extra part to their Reading Bug. Those children who complete their Reading Bug within each half term will receive a small reward (such as dip in the box or extra Golden Time).! Let's see if we can get everyone completing their first bug in Autumn!! Happy reading everyone!



Developing Reading Skills

Starting from September we will be sending home some additional activities to help develop different reading skills (such as prediction, inference or vocabulary skills) to help further develop comprehension skills in those children who read very frequently at home. As these sheets are 'skills based' you may find that your child receives the same sheet again to work on with a different book. Please make sure that any completed sheets are in your child's reading folder on the day that their class has their Reading Records checked in school. All sheets will be kept in school to help your child's teacher track their development of key skills. A text will be sent to let you know which day your child's records will be checked.

And finally...

Home/school diaries- If you write a message in your child's diary, please ask them to pass it to their teacher at the start of the day as we do not check every home/school diary in KS1.

Please keep a watchful eye on the school's website- we will be writing blogs to keep you all up to date with everything that is going on in KS1.

If you would like to offer your help, to hear children read, help the children in computers or don't mind sticking work into books/ helping teachers with admin jobs we would love to hear from you- please speak to a member of the team. Anything from an hour a week to half a day would be really helpful.