

# Class 1 Spring 1 2018

## Parent's information Letter: January 2018

A happy new year to everyone and welcome back. We only have five weeks this half term so it will be an extremely busy time in Class One!

### Class routines

We will continue with PE on Monday's as usual therefore it is important that a PE kit is in school on this day and it is **named**. Please bring it in and leave it on your child/children's peg and then take home to wash at the end of the half term. This will help to ensure that everyone has their kit in school. A PE kit should contain:

- Black shorts
- White T-shirt
- Plimsoles/trainers (for any outdoor PE)
- Tracksuit top/jumper
- Tracksuit/jogging bottoms

Some children have shown excellent independence coming in, registering themselves, changing their reading books and starting an activity. As we are starting the second term of the year it would be great if we could see some of the reception children coming into the cloakroom, putting water bottles in the correct place and registering without adult support. This ultimately helps to support their independence and allows us to get the children's learning off to a flying start in the morning! However, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff if you to inform us of anything.

### Home Learning

It is fantastic to see so many children completing their home learning and feeling proud of their work. Year One's now have a spelling and phonics book to support the development and practise of phonics and spelling skills. Home learning will be given out each **Friday** and the Class One team will look at it on the following Friday. It will not be marked as such but is an excellent way of developing reading and writing skills through specific practise.

The spellings sent for Year One's will consist of the Common Exception Words that all children are expected to be able to spell within their independent writing by the end of the year.

### Reading

Children in Class 1 read twice a week to a member of staff. It is important that these skills are consolidated at home. Children should be aiming to read about 4 times a week at home, those children who do read at home generally make better reading progress than those that don't. The children are given a ticket each time they have read at home, this will then be put into our reading raffle and a

winner drawn out in assembly. A member of staff will usually acknowledge children have read at home by initialling or writing a comment.

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

## **Supporting your child in their learning**

As well as supporting your child with home learning, please encourage them to read at least 4 times a week - even a little (5/10 mins a day) helps. Counting in the environment and looking at maths all around us is a great way of getting children engaged in mathematical problems.

E.g. counting steps, reading door numbers, adding money in shops, looking at shapes in the house.

If you have any queries or concerns about any aspect of your child's life at school, then please contact me.

## **Class Dojo**

Thank you to all the parents who signed up to class dojo! It is a great way of keeping in touch about what is happening in the classroom and how the children have demonstrated school values on a daily basis. It is really nice to share some of the work the children have been doing in class. Please also take the opportunity to send any exciting news or WOW moments the children have at home. We can then add these to the children's learning journey and put up on our display.

## **Curriculum**

This half term we will be exploring our topic 'Keen to be Green'. We will be looking at all the ways we can care for our environment and discovering which materials we can recycle.

In Literacy, we will be learning how to join sentences together to make more interesting stories and learning how to look at our own work and see how we can improve building on our growth mindset work. We will be developing our knowledge of 2d and 3d shapes as well as revisiting aspects of place value to support our number knowledge. Through our computing curriculum, we will be introducing Purple Mash log-in details so that the children can access some excellent resources to support their learning. Miss Wilkie will be teaching the children RE on a Wednesday afternoon this half term and as children begin to learn more about different religions and special/holy artefacts.

Many thanks,

Mr. Barwick