



## Autumn 2 Newsletter – Information for Parents Date: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019

### Class 1 TJ

Dear Parents/carers

Welcome back to school – we are now on the countdown to Christmas!! We are all looking forward to rehearsing and then performing our Nativity play in December!

#### Class Routines

Children are able to come into class and settle as soon as the door is open at 8.40; our daily routine begins at 8.50. All our new nursery children have settled very well into school, so well done to them! Nursery and Reception children continue to receive free milk if they are under five years old. If you wish to pay for your child to have milk, please register online with the 'cool milk' scheme. All children need a pair of wellies in school plus a water bottle. We are trying to encourage children to take home water bottles each Friday to be washed! Please bring a coat to school each day as we go out in all weathers.

Our **PE** lessons are on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. Depending on the weather and activity, the sessions will take place either in our school hall or outside on the playground / school field. Please ensure that your child has both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school **which is clearly labelled with their name**.

**Forest school** with Mr Houghton has now finished until term 4, so children can bring their Forest School clothes home.

Our **topic** work this half term is 'Land and Sea', however within this, the children will also learn about animals. In Geography, we will study the seven continents and five oceans. We shall focus on Antarctica, plus the animals that live there. The children will also make a penguin with a link to Advent, plus various other Christmas activities!

In **Science** our focus is Animals. We shall investigate how to group animals according to their features. For example, birds, fish, reptiles, mammals and amphibians. The **Role Play** area will also be set up as a vets.

In **English** we will be focusing on our phonics work.

The Year 1 children have now started phase 5 of letters and sounds. They have been given a phonics book to practice these sounds at home as they need to be applying them in their writing when spelling tricky words. Phase 5 sees the introduction of the alternative ways of writing (graphemes) the sounds already learnt. For example, the sound ee can be written as ea as in meat, ie as in thief and with a letter in the middle as in theme. The children will be learning how to correctly form and punctuate sentences within these sessions.

In addition, the children will cover some aspects of poetry, narratives, recounts and instructions, as well as work linked to Christmas. Texts will be linked to our topic of Land and sea, plus Animals. This will include non-fiction texts.

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage will continue to develop their phonics work including listening, vocabulary and speaking skills. For nursery this includes listening walks, action songs, learning rhymes and playing games such as I spy. Reception children have started phase 2 of Letters

and Sounds and are trying hard to blend and segment sounds learnt so far. We are teaching children to start all their letters on the line when writing as we use the cursive style at Husthwaite school. This helps children with joining up their letters later on.

In **Maths** EYFS children will start with lots of counting and number recognition before moving onto addition later in the half term if appropriate. They will also cover work on shape. There will be opportunities for maths, from our outdoor environment and continuous provision for all year groups. **Year One** children's main content this half term will be addition and subtraction using the part whole model as well as place value. This includes missing number problems.

In **RE** the children are learning – Why does Christmas matter to Christians? They will learn about the story of Jesus' birth and that Advent for Christians is a time for getting ready for Jesus 'coming.

### Homework

**Reception / Nursery** children will bring their Learning Journeys home on a Friday – please add photographs and any drawings the children do over the weekend ready for them to talk about on a Monday morning. Sounds and reading books will follow for **Reception** children.

**Yr1** – In addition to reading at home, the children will receive weekly spellings to learn each Friday which will be tested the following Friday. They will also bring home a weekend diary in which to record their activities and achievements over the weekend. This could be a picture of what they have been doing with some key words or photographs.

### Reading

Once the Reception children are able to blend and segment simple 3 letter words using the phonics taught in school, they will bring home a reading book. They will be read with 1:1 each week. Please sign or initial in their reading record book when they have read to you.

In addition, reception children will also bring home a phonics book, with all the letter sounds learnt so far. They can then show you what they have been learning in school.

Y1 children will be read with 1-1 twice per week as we have a lovely volunteer reader who comes into school every Monday. They will also participate in one guided reading session per week. The children will have their books changed Monday, Wednesday and Friday if appropriate after practising their book at home. Please initial once your child has read to you.

### **Sharing Assembly**

Please come and join our sharing assembly every Friday at 3.45 to celebrate the children's achievements. As always, if there is anything you wish to discuss we are always available, please pop in!

Many Thanks,  
Mrs Jackson and the Class One Team 😊