



Spring 2 Newsletter – Information for Parents Date: 04.03.022

Class 1

Dear Parents/carers

Welcome back to school – we hope you all had a wonderful half term break.

Nursery children.

Please arrive between 8.50 and 9.00 am so that all our nursery children are ready to begin their morning routine and activities by 9am. Obviously siblings of school age children will continue to arrive between 8.40 and 8.50 am. The side gate to class 1 is locked at 9.00 am. Please note that all our nursery children are now beginning their day in the main classroom and all their peg labels are in there too for their personal belongings. Please can you ensure your nursery child has a spare change of clothes in their bag. We go out in all weathers and sometimes get muddy so spare socks, leggings etc are needed. We learn through play which often can be messy! However, you are more than welcome to purchase a school jumper if you wish.

Our nursery children also take part in **PE** on Tuesday afternoons and so need an outdoor pair of trainers. We will be outside this term with Mr Shimwell so the correct footwear is required. Similarly a pair of jogging bottoms are also needed.

Nursery, Reception, Year One Class Routines

All children may come into class from 8.40 but our daily routine begins at 8.50.

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 to pay online with the 'cool milk' scheme (www.coolmilk.com). All children need a pair of wellies in school plus a water bottle. We encourage children to take home water bottles each day to be washed! Please bring a coat to school each day as we go out in all weathers.

Our PE lessons continue to be on Tuesday afternoons. They will take place outside this half term, unless the weather is particularly dreadful! Please ensure they have warm clothing such as jogging bottoms instead of shorts if it is cold. Also that their kit is clearly labelled with their name. Children are not allowed to wear tights in PE so will need to bring a pair of **socks** to wear inside their trainers.

Forest school. Although we had Forest school last term, we were missing 2 sessions, so will catch these up this half term. We will let you know when this will be so you can send in appropriate clothing.



Our topic work this half term is 'Dungeons and Dragons' and as part of this exciting topic, we will be learning about castles. We will begin our topic by finding out about castles that are local to us in North Yorkshire. We shall look at castle timelines and features of castles. Children will find out about life and jobs in a medieval castle.

In **Art** we will examine the painting *Castle and the Sun* by Paul Klee, then recreate the image using crayons and watercolours etc.

In **RE** the children are learning – 'Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter garden'?

In **Science** our focus is 'minibeasts'. We will 'identify and name a variety of minibeast and look at their habitats. We will also go into the wildlife garden and investigate the pond life.

English the children continue to receive daily phonics work. Phase 5 shows the children 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. Children in Year One will continue learning plurals, adding s and es to words. They will also learn to add endings to words such as ing, - ed, - and er to verbs. For example; hunting, hunted, hunter, jumping, jumped, jumper. They will also add er and est to verbs such as in quicker, quickest. Digraphs and trigraphs continue to be taught according to phase 5. Spellings are weekly and will be related to phonics and tricky words. There is a continual focus on handwriting with each letter starting on the line (for Year One) so it can be more easily joined. 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, with work linked to the topics of castles and minibeasts. This will include non-fiction texts.

EYFS: Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage will continue to develop their phonics work including listening, vocabulary and speaking skills. We are continuing with Phase 3 of Letters and Sounds with lots of practice at blending and reading CVC and CCVC words, such as in 'cat' or 'fish'. Nursery children will have daily Phase 1 phonics games where they will learn to distinguish and say phonemes correctly. Their focus will be on the prime areas of the EYFS curriculum which are personal and social development, physical development and communication, language and literacy. The texts in reception will be linked to our class topic and if children want to bring story or non-fiction books in from home, they are very welcome.

In **Maths**, Year One children are working with numbers to 50, investigating place value such as one more than or less than. They will also cover measurement, including length and height, weight and volume. During our mental arithmetic sessions, we will also be focusing on learning our times tables.

EYFS children have daily counting and number recognition to 20 and beyond with a focus on subitising. They use the numicon and counters to order, count and add numbers, progressing towards their maths Early Learning Goals by the end of the year. They will learn about 2D and 3D shapes as well as measurement through length or weight.

Homework

Reception children are currently having their reading books changed once or twice a week and daily reading at home is encouraged. This term they will continue to take part in group guided reading.

Yr1 – In addition to reading at home, the children have their weekly spellings to learn each Friday which will be tested the following Friday. Y1 children will be read with 1-1 each week. They will also participate in two guided reading sessions per week. The children will have their books changed twice a week if appropriate, after practising their book at home. Please continue to read at home and initial once your child has read to you.

Children should be aiming to read about 3/4 times a week at home, those children who do read at home generally make better reading progress than those who don't.

Reception children have lots of opportunities for reading during the day, from when they are playing in the role play area and writing area, to individual and group reading. Please continue to sign or initial in their reading record book when they have read to you. Letter sounds are regularly put into their phonics books to show at home. Thank you for your support with this.

Sharing Assembly

Please come and join our sharing assembly every Friday at 2.45, (either by zoom or in person, depending on the circumstances), 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 ☐