

Year 1



Autumn 1 Newsletter

Welcome back to school and Year One. We know that the last few months have been very challenging for everyone. We are very much looking forward to re-establishing routines and easing any anxieties by providing as much support as possible to all children.

This term our topic is 'Time Tardis' this is a lovely topic to begin the year as it allows us to explore our memories, the past and present and provides us with lots of opportunities to really get to know each other. We will also look at our local environment and find out about how school, technology and lives have changed from in the past.

Year 1 Staff

This year, our Year 1 class is called Willows. Willow Class will be taught by Mrs Barrington (Wed, Thurs and Fri) and Mrs Markham (Mon, Tues, Wed), 1:1 Mrs Charlton and our temporary teaching assistant will be Mrs Emery.

P.E Kits and Uniform

PE lessons are on **Wednesdays** and will begin on **Wednesday 9th September**. Please ensure your child's indoor and outdoor PE kit (shorts, t-shirt, jogging bottoms, jumper, socks, trainers and plimsolls) is in school every day and is clearly labelled with their name. Please can we ask that PE kits always stay in school, as these will be needed at other times. Earrings need to be removed on PE days, unless your child can remove them themselves and long hair needs to be tied up.

Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct school uniform that is clearly named. The children are to wear black school shoes. A reminder that nail varnish needs to be removed for school and earrings must be plain studs (no hoops). A reminder that jumpers and cardigans need to be clearly labelled with your child's name to avoid confusion and upsets. Also, we ask that no other jewellery is worn in school for health and safety. If your child comes in with extra jewellery, they will be asked to remove it until the end of the day.

Homework

Our homework this year will be in the style of a 'Pic n Mix' format. In your child's homework book, you will find a 'Pick n Mix' homework sheet. This sheet will cover the entire half term (until the October holiday) and has a variety of activities for your child to complete that will support their learning in school. Each of the activities are colour coded. The red activities are activities that should be completed weekly, for example practising counting, reading and spellings. Yellow activities are activities that should be completed at some point during the term, these can be completed whenever, however they all have deadlines and will be collected in on these days. The final activities are green and these are super challenge boxes. These are not compulsory but are any extra challenge or project that your child may complete if they wish to. Homework books will still be collected in every **Wednesday** and handed out again on **Fridays**. It is really important that you support your child with their homework as this will develop their learning and understanding of what has been taught in school and is essential that it is your child's work.

We will also send home weekly spellings, please support your child in practising these using the different activity ideas in the back of the spelling journal as many times as possible over the week. Spelling journals will be used in class on a daily basis in Year 1 to support spelling in writing, therefore, your child's spelling journal needs to be in school every day but will be collected and changed on a **Monday**.

Reading

Reading books are changed on a weekly basis. However, books will only be changed if it has been recorded in their reading journals that an adult has listened to the child read. This can be a comment about how they got on or a signature. We do encourage the children to read their reading book, however, if your child reads any other books, please write this in their reading journal also. Please ensure that you are reading with your child at least 3 times per week. Year 1 is an incredibly important year for your child where we develop their reading skills, confidence and enjoyment. The children will receive rewards for regular reading at home. Also, don't forget that your child has access to our Reading Eggs website (your child's log in details are in the front of their Reading Journal), which is ideal for extra fun reading practise and activities.

To ensure that your child is given the relevant levelled reading book, we will be spending time hearing every child read, making detailed assessments with regards to their phonics and comprehension (understanding) of the text. Therefore, reading books will not be sent home for the first couple of weeks of this term. To encourage your child to continue to read at home, there is a range of reading books on Reading Eggs and the Oxford Owl Website- <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

Rewards

This year, we have a brand-new reward system that will replace Vivo's. The rewards work in the same way as Vivos but are called 'Carrot Rewards'. There will be more information about this to come. If your child has Vivos to spend on their account, please do this as soon as possible.

Water Bottles

Just a reminder, that your child needs to bring a named water bottle to school every day filled with plain water. The children will have access to their water bottle at specific times throughout the day, to allow them to rehydrate. As a school, we would like to help the environment in any way we can and ask that children bring in re-usable bottles where possible rather than single use plastic.

Weduc

Please make sure that you are registered onto Weduc and regularly check your account as we post important dates and activities that the children take part in during their time in school.

Attendance

As you are aware, a good level of attendance is essential for a good level of progress. Please ensure that your child attends school every day, unless they are ill. If your child is ill, please let the office know. It is also important for children to arrive at school on time, as we have planned activities each morning that support your child's learning for the day. The drop off time for Year 1 is 8.30-8.40 and the collection time is 2.50-3.00.

Curriculum Evening

To ensure that you are aware of the Year 1 National Curriculum, how to support your child at home, the expectations of Year 1 and why we do what we do in school, we would like to invite you to a Year 1 Curriculum Workshop on Wednesday 16th September, 3.00-4.00. If you are unable to attend, a pack of information will be available.

Special Memories

Over the next couple of weeks in Year 1, we will be looking at our childhood memories. Please could your child bring to school something special to them on **Monday 21st September**. This could be a special toy, a special book or even a photograph showing a special memory such as a birthday party or a holiday. These will only stay in school for one day and will be looked after very carefully. The children will be given the chance to share why that item is so special to them and to talk about their special toys etc with their friends.

