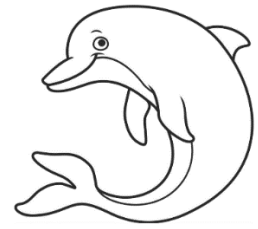


Year 1 Autumn Newsletter



Welcome to Year 1; we have had an exciting start to the year, and we are looking forward to working alongside your child. We hope this newsletter will provide you with everything you need to know about Year 1.

Over the next few weeks, the children will be doing junk modelling during continuous provision. If you have any quality junk e.g. small cardboard boxes, small plastic yogurt pots, milk bottle tops, tubes, kitchen roll tubes, we would appreciate if you could send them in with your child, (no toilet rolls, thank you!)

Beginning and end of day routines

The children are already entering Year 1 calmly and sensibly, arranging their belongings on their peg and happily bounding into their classrooms, we would like to thank you for your support.

We dismiss children one-by-one at the end of the day to ensure their safe return to you. In order for this to run as smoothly as possible, please let us know the usual home time arrangements for your child. If these arrangements change at any point, please let us know in writing or by phone.

We also ask that you stand roughly in the same place each day, so that your child knows where to locate you, and that you wave **only** when your child is at the front of the line. Whilst we appreciate that this is a good time to converse with other parents, it is essential that your child has made eye contact with you before leaving our side. If you are waiting to see a member of staff at the end of the day, please wait until every child has been dismissed before approaching to ensure that all children have a clear view to their parents. Whilst we do our utmost to ensure that every child has all of their belongings at the end of a day, there may be times when they need to re-enter the building to collect a forgotten item. Again, please wait until every child has been dismissed to avoid congestion at the door.

Whilst most school correspondence is sent out electronically, we still do send some information home in your child's book bag so please check this daily. All letters can be downloaded from the school website. Please ensure that any communication about your child (i.e. changes in collection arrangements, letters explaining absence, visit consents) is handed directly to their teacher on the door as book bags are only checked once a week. We ask that drinks and snacks are not transported in the book bags as liquids can escape and ruin the contents. Children are to place book bags in boxes in the classroom.

Snack and lunch

Fruit is available daily for every child in the unit and milk if provided if you have requested it for you child. In addition to this we ask that every child brings a reusable, non-spill bottle of water or very diluted fruit juice to school. This should be placed in the box by your child's door as they are allowed access to this throughout the day and also take it into lunch with them. They are also welcome to bring their own healthy snack to school if preferred (no crisps or confectionary). This could be a fruit or vegetable snack, a cereal bar or a yogurt, but one item a day is sufficient. No nut-based products or kiwis are allowed due to allergies amongst children and staff; this includes peanut butter and nut-based chocolate spreads. Please ensure all bottles and snacks are named and if children are bringing their own fruit that it is in a named bag or pot.

Please keep all items for lunch in a separate box, which should be stored on the bottom bench below your child's peg. It is essential that all bottles and containers are named.

All children will eat their lunch in the hall. We have reserved tables for each class to sit together regardless of the type of lunch they are having. Children having a hot lunch are served the meal that you have ordered to their table. All children have as much time as they need to eat their lunch followed by a playtime.

P.E.

Girls	Boys
Black shorts	Black shorts
White T-shirt	White T-shirt
Black plimsolls (not black soles please)	Black plimsolls (not black soles please)
Black tracksuit	Black tracksuit
Trainers for outdoor use (Velcro fastened)	Trainers for outdoor use (Velcro fastened)
Drawstring PE Bag (any colour)	Drawstring PE Bag (any colour)

Please ensure that they have their full indoor P.E. kit in school at all times (black shorts, white t-shirt, black plimsolls (not black soles please). In addition, for outdoor PE children should have a dark coloured tracksuit and trainers (Velcro fastened). Don't forget to put a spare pair of socks into the P.E bag if your child wears tights. Timetabled P.E. will be on Wednesday (indoor) and Friday (outdoor). Your child's clothes and footwear must be named and in a bag that can be hung on their peg. Long hair will need to be tied up and if your child has pierced ears, please could they not wear earrings on P.E days especially if they are unable to remove them and put them back in themselves. If your child has had their ears pierced less than six weeks, so are therefore not allowed to remove their earrings, they must have their earrings covered by tape. We will send P.E. kits home at the end of each half term so that they can be washed. If you would like your child's P.E. kit at any point before this, please ask your child's teacher.

Hair and Jewellery

Hair should be in a style which is smart, safe and suitable for school. Long hair for both girls and boys must be tied back with appropriate bobbles or hair bands. Jewellery is not suitable for school. Children who have pierced ears are permitted to wear a single set of studs. Multiple earrings, hoops or earrings that dangle are not permitted. Earrings need to be removed or taped during PE sessions. To ease this, we suggest that parents book ear piercing appointments for early in the summer holidays so that earrings can be removed for PE/swimming when school starts in September. Children are not permitted to wear nail varnish or make-up. Children may wear a simple watch, however smart watches are only permitted in Years 5 and 6 with written parental consent.

Forest School

The children will be taking part in Forest School throughout the year, on **alternate Thursday afternoons** starting on **Thursday 18th September**. During Forest School sessions children must wear long sleeves and long trousers to protect them from sunburn, sparks from the fire and scratches etc. They will also need a waterproof coat and either wellies or snow boots. We advise your child to wear old clothes so that they can get dirty. All clothes and footwear should be clearly named. On Forest School days, children should come to school wearing their Forest School clothes (please refer to the letter from Katherine Grindrod – Forest School Leader).

Spare clothing

From time-to-time children will have unavoidable accidents. We endeavour to deal with these as calmly and discreetly as possible. In order to do this, it is really helpful if each child has a full set of spare clothes in their bag on their peg (including underwear and socks). Whilst we have a small stock of spare clothing it is more comforting for your child to be wearing their own clothes.

Clothing

Please ensure all items of clothing are named so that they find their way home again, as you can imagine it is very difficult for children to find their belongings as they all look the same.

Birthdays

Children are welcome to bring in sweets on their birthdays which can be given out at the end of the day to their friends. They are told they can only eat them when their parent or carer gives them permission to do so. Please do not send in a large birthday cake as we do not have the time or resources to cut this up and distribute it.

Classroom routines

Over the past week we have started introducing the children to the routines and systems used within Year 1. These are not too dissimilar to the routines of Early Years. These are outlined below so that you understand them when your child brings them up in conversation.

Self-registration –every morning we ask the children to find their name card and add it to our whole class display. We then take an official register later in the morning.

King and Queen – every day two children from each class are chosen to be the special helpers for the day. They will take out the playground equipment, be first in the line and so on. Every child has a turn before all names are returned to the bag to be selected again.

Class rules– both classrooms have the rules on display. These focus on being kind and polite to each other, listening, taking turns and sharing, looking after the toys and being friends with everyone.

Zone Board - This is part of our whole school behaviour and positive relationships policy. Every child begins the day on the 'Sunshine'. When they are spotted doing the right thing, such as following instructions or being kind to others, they are rewarded by moving up to the rocket, and subsequently up to the stars. If they have reached the stars by the end of the day, the children are given a star sticker which they stick onto their collection card - in Year 1 these are rockets. Once a child has earned 10 star stickers, they receive a 'Star Voucher' which will be kept safely for them by the class teacher in the 'Star Bank'. Children can then trade their vouchers for items from 'The Star Shop'. Children are encouraged to consider whether they wish to 'spend' or 'save' their vouchers.

If a child is struggling to make the right choices, they will be moved to the grey 'Choice Cloud' where they will be reminded of the choices they can make regarding their behaviour. As soon as they make the right choice, they move back to wherever they had already reached on the zone board. If they continue to struggle to make the right choice or find themselves in a 'stormy moment', they will be moved to the Storm Cloud where they will be supported by an adult to return to the sunshine. All Storm Cloud incidents are recorded; if they become a cause for concern, we will contact you so that we can work in partnership to support your child with their choices.

Rewards - When children are awarded a 'gold' award in class for academic achievement or demonstrating the learning values well, you will be sent a slip home informing you of this; the children then receive their gold sticker in our Congratulations Assembly on the following Friday at 3pm. Your child may also be selected to be the 'Pupil of the Week'. You will be notified of this via e-mail. All parents are invited to attend these assemblies, regardless of whether your child is receiving an award.

Class mascots – 'Tommy the turtle' and 'Danny the dolphin' take part in many of the daily games and activities at school. In addition to this they love to go on holiday with the children. They have their bags ready, containing their diary. All we ask is that your child records their time with 'Tommy' or 'Danny' in the diary, adding photos, writing and drawings. Please let us know in advance if your child has not had Tommy or Danny and you are doing something or going somewhere exciting, we will do our utmost to arrange for them to go with you.

Themes

All of our teaching is approached through themes. In line with good practice, we will be 'going' with the children, our planned themes for the year ahead are ...

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 1
The Magical Tree (based on The Faraway Tree)	Elving Around	Castles	A Quest Around the World		Attack of the Seagulls

Please keep these ideas a secret from the children as many of our themes have surprise elements and we wish to make them as exciting and real for the children as we can.

Educational Visits

Over the year we aim to enhance the children's learning through theme related visits. We aim to do one trip or have a visitor come to school per term. The approximate costs, including admission and transport fees, are indicated below. A small fee for insurance will also be added to the first visit. Please note that due to price increases in admission and fuel, these may be subject to change. We have outlined our ideas for the theme related visits below, but we will endeavour to send out letters about visits and details of payment at least 6 weeks before the proposed visit date. These visits are only possible if parents/carers meet the cost through 'voluntary' contributions. In the event that insufficient contributions are received such visits do not go ahead. We are able to support the cost of visits for children who are eligible for Pupil Premium Funding.

Again, please keep these ideas a secret from the children.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Hartlebury Museum and Castle	Warwick Castle	Cotswold Wildlife Park
£20	£25	£25

Supporting your child at home

Your ongoing support of your child's learning at home is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

- **Reading** - In a change to EYFS, your child will be sent home with **one** reading book at a time. Every time you hear your child read, please write a comment in the reading journal (examples of comments can be found inside the journal). When your child has finished reading their book and you need a new one, please write a comment to this effect in their journal. Your child's book will then be changed. **Your child should bring both their reading journal and their book to school every day**, even if they have not finished reading it. We ask that you hear your child read every day. There is further guidance in each book found on the inner front and back covers. Your child will also start bringing a free choice book home every night. This is a story or information book for you to share with your child. This is not matched to their reading ability. They will be encouraged to change this daily. We continue to read 1:1 with your child at least once a week. Please remember not to put notes or messages in reading journals. Messages and letters must be given to staff on the door in the morning.
- **Phonics** - During our daily phonic sessions, we have been recapping the phonemes and common exception words taught in EYFS as well as introducing how to blend long vowel phonemes and introducing more common exception words. We are going to start introducing the alternate graphemes to the children in the next couple of weeks. More information regarding the teaching of phonics and how to support your child will be explained in the Year 1 Workshop.
- **Homework** - We would like your child to read for at least ten minutes every day. Reading is a vital skill that enables children to access all areas of the curriculum, therefore it is the emphasis for the Autumn term homework.

E-Safety

The internet is an integral part of children's lives today and opens up many educational and social opportunities, giving them access to, quite literally, a world of information and experience. We take e-safety very seriously and, in line with current e-safety guidelines, we use monitoring software on all school machines to help keep pupils and staff safe when using our computers and the internet. An active Acceptable Use Policy is also in operation, requiring acknowledgment each time a user logs on to the equipment in school before access is granted. We have a dedicated e-safety section on the school website to provide information on how to keep your children and yourselves safer online. You will also receive monthly e-safety newsletters keeping you updated with current trends and tips for keeping children safe when online outside of school.

Please follow this link to see any past newsletters and other useful E-Safety information.

<https://www.lyppardgrange.worcs.sch.uk/online-safety/>

Additional staff

Each week every teacher is given time out of the classroom for planning, preparation and assessment purposes. Release time for Miss Tinley will be covered by Miss Joy and release time for Miss Franklin will be covered by Mrs Grindrod.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

As a community school we welcome and provide for all children regardless of their culture, background or special educational needs. If you have any concerns about your child's individual needs, please arrange an appointment to discuss these with your class teacher and our school SENDCo, Mrs Claire Edwards. We ask that you respect every family and their needs by showing your tolerance and acceptance of every child within our school especially in front of your own children. If you have any concerns about the behaviour or support given to individual children, we would be happy to discuss our policy with you further by appointment.

With thanks for your support this term,

Lucy Tinley and Lydia Franklin (Class teachers)

Charlotte Davis, Sophie Croy-Davis, Rachel Hackett and Morgan Tysoe (Teaching Assistants)

Katherine Grindrod and Anna Joy (PPA team)