

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child into Year 1. Our half-termly newsletters will inform you of our topics and the areas we will be covering, as well as any additional information you need to know.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ❖ From **Thursday 13th September** the children will be expected to come into school on their own on Monday, Thursday and Friday mornings which will support their independence. Please say your goodbyes at the bottom of the ramp to avoid congestion at the door. If you have a child in Year 1 and Reception, please take both children to the Reception door and the Year 1 child can walk to their Year 1 classroom through the school.
- ❖ Starting on **12th September**, we invite you to come into your child's classroom every Wednesday from **8.50-9.05am** to help them with an activity.
- ❖ **Reading week.** This begins on **Monday 24th September** from 3 – 3.10pm. We will not be visiting the library this term so reading sessions will be every day at 3pm during this week. Our regular morning reading sessions continue **every Tuesday between 8.50 and 9.00am** and will start on **Tuesday 11th September**. Please could we ask that pushchairs are left in the playground on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings for activities in school. If it is raining pushchairs can be left in the hall, positioned about the outer edge (Please be mindful that the children come into the hall barefoot for PE or sitting on the floor for assemblies).
- ❖ **Harvest service** at the URC church on **Monday 1st October at 2pm**. Please feel free to join us by meeting us there.
- ❖ **Twycross Zoo** The Year 1 children will be visiting Twycross Zoo on Wednesday 3rd October. Further details to follow in a separate letter.
- ❖ **Parents evening** will be on **Tuesday 9th 6-8pm and Thursday 11th October 3.30-6pm**.
- ❖ **Half term** – school closes on **Friday 19th October** and reopens to pupils on **Tuesday 30th October**. Please note that **Monday 29th October** is a training day.



GENERAL INFORMATION

- Please feel free to come and speak to us about how your child is settling in, developments you would like to share or any concerns you have. If this is a quick message, the member of staff on the door in the morning will be happy to pass it on to your child's teacher, or please catch us at the end of the day. If it is something that will need longer please make an appointment for a more convenient time. As you can appreciate mornings are very busy but we do want to hear from you and will do our very best to see you the same day. Home/School link books are checked every day, but it is always worth asking your child to let us know if there is a message inside that we need to read.
- **Clothing** Please can we remind you to make sure **ALL** your child's items of clothing are named. If your child does come home in an item of clothing that doesn't belong to them please return it as soon as possible.
- **PE days** are Tuesdays for all classes, Wednesdays for Goldfinches and Thursdays for Woodpeckers and Robins. Please can you make sure any earrings are taken out before school on PE days and that long hair is tied up.
- **Reading books** Children can change their reading book on any day as long as there is evidence in the Home/School link book that it has been read on two separate occasions. The children are asked to read twice to ensure comprehension and encourage expression and fluency.
- **Statutory assessment** In June Year 1 children are required to take a Phonics Screening assessment. Please do not book a holiday during this period.

Please don't hesitate to call the office if you need any further information. We are grateful for your continued support.

The Year 1 Team



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Maths

In maths we are investigating numbers, counting up to 20 and beyond and identifying more and less. We will be adding and subtracting practically and then recording with the help of number lines and Numicon jottings. Number bonds to 10 and then 20 will be practised.

AT HOME:

Support your children to investigate and remember number bonds to 10 eg $4 + 6$ and then challenge them to find number bonds to 20.

RE

We will be learning about special places in Christianity, such as churches.



Art

In Art we will be making observational drawings of creatures and creating them using clay.

AT HOME:

Practise looking at objects closely and then drawing something you can see.



Music

As musicians we will be finding the pulse in a range of music. We will be learning and making up rap songs and performing them to others.



ICT

We are using maps, small world figures, Bee-bots and on-screen turtles. Children will need to use language such as forwards, backwards, turn left and turn right.



AT HOME:

Can you play a game taking it in turns to give directions?

Salty Seas and Leafy Lands



Literacy

In our literacy lessons, we will be learning facts and writing a non-fiction report about Cheetahs. The children will have a daily story time during which we will read a variety of stories.

AT HOME:

Find out facts about Cheetahs and then the children can share them with us in school. Please read with your child daily.

Values, PSHE and Philosophy for Children (P4C)

We will be contemplating **love** this term.

AT HOME:

Discuss with your child how they are feeling about their new class and what to do if they are unsure of anything.

PE

In PE we will be working with Vicky (our PE coach) to practise our team game skills. We will also be learning different ways of travelling – skipping, hopping, hopscotch as well as changing direction using pivots.

AT HOME:

Practise skipping and playing hopscotch.

We will be making a display of children taking part in exercise outside of school. This does not need to be at an organised club but can be your child taking the dog for a walk or riding a bike. Please would you send in a photo with the child's name and class on the back so it can be returned at the end of the year.



Science

As Scientists we will be identifying and naming a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

AT HOME:

Can you find specific examples of animals that are in the different categories?

Geography

We will be investigating the Isle of Coll, where Katie Morag lives, and comparing it to our town of Desborough.



AT HOME:

Talk to your children about places you have visited on holiday and the geographical features they have eg cliffs, beach.