



Welcome:

Welcome to Year 1! We are very much looking forward to working in partnership with you this year and sharing your child's learning journey. We have been so impressed with how well the children have quickly settled in their new environments and how well they have adapted to new routines. You will also find lots of useful information and resources on our year group page of the school website which will be updated throughout the year.

Partnership with Parents:

Parents and carers have a fundamental role to play in their child's education and we are sure that together, as partners, we can make the Year 1 experience a huge success. Should you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning, social or emotional needs throughout the year, then please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. This can be arranged at drop off or collection if appropriate or alternatively you can arrange a telephone call or meeting through the school office.

Year 1 Curriculum and Topics:

Throughout Year 1, children will experience a broad and balanced curriculum which develops the whole child. The topics are engaging and opportunities will be planned throughout the year for you as parents and carers to join us. Each half term you will receive a curriculum overview which will provide you with the curriculum coverage for that half term, as well as suggestions of how you can help your child at home. Please ensure you read this carefully as key dates and events will also be shared on this overview.

Independence:

In Year 1, children are encouraged to become more independent and are given more responsibility within classroom routines. Please continue to support your child to develop their independence at home.

Reading:

Please try to read daily with your child. Statistics have shown that if you read with your child for 10 minutes a day you will help progress their reading age by a whole year. Children should change their 'sharing book' as frequently as needed. You will also have access to Collins Hub to review your child's phonetically matched book. You will find that as the difficulty and length of books increase, your child will need to keep the book for longer. We also recommend re-reading books a few times so that children become more fluent and develop a large repertoire of books they know. Our expectation is that you read with your child at least three times each week.

When reading at home, please ensure you are asking a range of reading comprehension questions to support the comprehension and understanding. You will find examples of reading comprehension question types in the 'reading' area of our school website. Children will also bring home a book of their choice to read for pleasure and have opportunities to read and explore books from our school library.

Seesaw:

We will continue to use Seesaw to support the learning in school. This platform allows us to work with parents and carers to share information and record your child's learning in the classroom and beyond. We encourage parents to be actively involved in your child's learning and welcome home observations detailing what your child has accomplished at home.

Home Learning:

As well as reading at home daily, the curriculum news will share ways in which you can support your child's learning in all areas of the curriculum. Information about our new sounds, focus words and common exception words will be shared with you via Seesaw. Discussions with your child are a great way to build on their learning and support knowledge going into their long term memory.

PE:

Our PE days have now been shared and children will come to school in their PE kit. We will let you know if there are any changes to the timetable throughout the year. As the weather gets colder, please ensure that all children have a warm jacket that is suitable for physical activity.

Lunches:

The menu will be updated half-yearly and shared with you. Please continue to discuss the lunch options with your child to ensure they choose a meal they like.

Book Bags:

Your child might be given letters that are not sent out electronically so please check your child's book bag regularly. Please also remind your child to hand in any letter that needs to be returned to school. Please can we remind you not to put water bottles inside book bags as any leakages can cause damage to the contents including your child's books. Please ensure they only have one small keyring on their book bag to help them identify it. Thank you for your support.

School Day:

Please try to ensure you drop your child to school as close to 8:45 as possible. The gate will be closed at 8:55.

Regular Volunteers/Trips:

We welcome volunteers in school. If you are able to regularly volunteer; please contact the school office. If you cannot help regularly but can help on a trip, please let the class teacher know so you can be added to a list.

If you have any further questions then please speak to your child's class teacher. They are available daily and will be more than happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.