

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.

## **Hiltingbury Heroes – A Learner for Life**

We encourage children to develop and apply the skills of our Hiltingbury Heroes which we believe are essential in order for them to become 'successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens'. Each week teachers will choose two children in each class who have been displaying the skills of one of our Hiltingbury Heroes. They will be awarded 'learner of the week' and will be given a sticker and certificate. Alongside this, the children will have a Hiltingbury Heroes passport which they will strive to complete to be awarded a Silver Hiltingbury Heroes award. The children complete their passport by demonstrating the skills of each of our Hiltingbury Heroes three times.

## **Year 1 Curriculum and Topics**

Throughout Year 1, children will experience a broad and balanced curriculum which develops the whole child and brings to life our motto of 'Learning, Caring and Achieving Together'. You can find out more about how our curriculum is implemented on our website. The topics are engaging and opportunities will be planned 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.

## **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 Raffle**

Please try to read daily with your child and record this with an initial so we can see how they are progressing at home. Children should change their 'sharing book' as frequently as needed, these will be outside the classroom door each morning. You will also have access to Collins Big Cat to review your child's phonetically matched book. We do recommend re-reading books a few times so that children become more fluent and develop a large repertoire of familiar books. Our expectation is that you read with your child at least three times each week. Every Friday, if children have read three times they will receive a raffle ticket to be entered into the reading raffle. Children will also bring home a library book each week.

## **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. Discussions with your child are a great way to build on their learning and support knowledge going into their long term memory. There will be weekly spellings linked to spelling rules and common exception words, there will be further updates on spellings in the next few weeks.

## **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.

## **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 when learning commences.

If you have any further questions then please speak to your child's class teacher. Thank you for your continued support!