

# Welcome to Year One!

September 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new year, new classroom and new teachers! We have already got to know your children a little, so settling in will hopefully be a smooth process! Year One is a big change from Reception, so please let us know if your child is worried about anything at all. Being happy at school is the first step in their learning adventure, so with your help, we aim to keep them smiling!

In the first half of term we will be learning all about the weather and how it affects both ourselves and those in other countries. Our Science focus will be on how we use materials in our daily lives. In Literacy we will begin by looking at labels, lists and captions, followed by fairy tales and traditional tales. You can help your child to understand the value of their learning at school by getting them to write lists or labels for you at home, look at what items are made of and consider why they have been made of that material

We love to welcome parents into class, so any offers from parents who can help on a regular, occasional or 'one-off' basis are very much appreciated. Please let us know on the attached slip. You do not need to have any special knowledge or expertise to help, but if you do have any special skills you would like to share with the class please speak to Mrs Livesey, who is the main teacher in the class.

In addition to Mrs Livesey, Mrs Bannister will regularly work with the children to support their learning. Community or parent volunteers will listen to your child read. Students will visit from time to time also. Mrs Cudby and Calvin will be teaching RE and PE on Tuesday afternoons. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS A FULL PE KIT IN SCHOOL IN A NAMED BAG – this will stay on their pegs and be sent home at the end of term for washing. If you could **NAME** every item we would be very, very grateful indeed. For PE, your child needs **supportive** outdoor trainers, with a cushioned sole and Velcro fastenings. Blue/black shorts and white t-shirt are all that is needed at present, with a warm top and leggings or track suit bottoms added later for outdoors in the colder weather.

'Scheme' reading books are sent home each day and all children should please **enjoy** some time reading to an adult at home at least 4 times each week if possible...enjoying reading is so very important at this age and simply the more practise they have, the more skilled they will become!

**Getting into a routine seems to be the key to success for most families.**

In addition to the 'scheme' reading book, your child will bring an 'own choice' book home each evening which they have chosen from the class library. This is meant to be shared and enjoyed together, with the adult reading for the most part. You may be interested to know that research has shown that **Dads** who regularly enjoy books with their children play a special part in improving the reading of boys in particular!

It is in the best interest of your child for us to communicate as well as we possibly can, so if there is any aspect of your child's welfare or education which you would like to discuss, no matter how trivial you feel it may be, please contact school to arrange a suitable time for us to have a longer chat, or catch staff at the school door if it's more urgent and can be dealt with quickly.

We are very much looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in our upcoming 'Meet the Teacher' meetings after school, where we will be able to discuss the curriculum, homework and general school life in more detail. It will be an ideal time to clarify anything you are not sure about too, so please ask as many questions as you wish.

We hope to have a lovely, enjoyable year and look forward to working together with you to make Year One in your child's school life as happy and memorable as possible. We will try our best to keep you updated with what is going on in class, but please do click on our class pages on the school website from time to time to see what we've been up to.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Livesey