

# Year One Newsletter

It has been great to welcome you back to school after such a long break. We are super impressed with how well the children have settled back into school life. We are looking forward to working with your child, and we are excited about all of the new learning that will take place. We kindly ask that you read and sign the Home School Agreement on page three of your child's Year One planner as soon as possible. We hope that this newsletter provides you with lots of information about the new academic year, and will hopefully answer any questions you may have.

## Reading books

This year, the children will continue on their journey in developing and securing their phonic knowledge as well as becoming independent, fluent readers. Reading books will be changed once the children have read their books **confidently**. Please read with your child daily (this may be a few pages or the whole book) and record this in their planner. The children will also have the opportunity to take a reading book of their choice home from the library. This may not be a book that is at their level but that they can look at for pleasure. Please do enjoy these books with your child by reading it to them, or looking at the book with them.



## Transition

This year, we will be working as part of a year one bubble so pupils from both of the classes will engage in learning experiences together.

Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from the Foundation Stage to Year One. The Year One curriculum builds upon and extends the experiences that the children have had in Foundation. We appreciate that children will be at very different stages of their development, considering the amount of missed schooling and we carefully consider this when planning their next steps in learning. As always, learning through play will be an important part of the school day, and the children will gradually be eased into more formal learning as the year progresses, so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager to learn.

## Maths Mastery

The children have now been introduced to Maths Mastery which is an exciting new approach to developing children's mathematical thinking. We will be uploading an overview of the key skills that your child will be taught this year onto Class Dojo and we hope that you find this helpful.



## Phonics/Sound Books

As your child will begin to be introduced to Phase 5 sounds, they will be issued with a new sound book, similar to the one they had in Foundation. The back of this book will contain new tricky words that the children will be learning to read.

Please go through these with your child daily and keep them in their book bags.

### Communication

We will be continuing to use Class Dojo as a primary way to communicate with you. Please ensure you continue to regularly check the class story for important information, letters and updates. If you have not activated your Class Dojo account, please speak to one of us and we will be happy to help.



As you are now able to enter on to the playground, if you have any questions or concerns you can also ask us at the end of the school day.

### PE

The children in Year One will be having weekly PE sessions which will take place on a **Thursday**. The children can come to school in their PE kits and will change into their uniform at the end of their lesson. Please remind your child to bring their PE home before the next lesson. We would like to encourage children to practise getting themselves dressed at home independently to prepare them for PE at school. Our uniform policy identifies that children are required to wear blue shorts/blue jogging bottoms and a white polo shirt with the Place Farm logo for PE.



### Handwriting

In Year One, the children will be continuing to work on their letter formation. Weekly handwriting sessions will be focussed on refining their control and letter size. When pupils are forming letter correctly, and confidently they will be introduced to Pre-Cursive. Pre-Cursive is the transition between printing (un-joined) letters and joining all letters in cursive handwriting.

### Staffing in Year One

We would like to introduce you to the staff in Year One. If you have any queries or questions, please feel free to contact any member of the team.

**1ES**– Mrs Stewart (Class Teacher), Mrs Robinson (Learning Assistant)

**1ED**– Mrs Downes (Class Teacher), Mrs Nippress (Learning Assistant)

We are very excited about the year ahead, and we hope you are too!

**Mrs Stewart and Mrs Downes**