

Year 1 Newsletter 11.9.26



Welcome to Year 1

We have had a lovely week and a half of settling in and finding our feet. The children have all done really well getting to know their new routines and we are really impressed with how well they have done.

To keep you informed about what is happening in Year 1 and what the children are learning, we will send out a class newsletter fortnightly. Please also check our whole school newsletters as they contain important dates and information.

Year 1 Staff Team

The class teachers Mrs Pringle and Miss Cassidy are supported in class by our teaching assistants Mrs Baines and Mrs Grey, who work closely with the children in both classes. In addition, weekly PPA cover is provided by Mrs King in both classes.



PE and Lunches

Our PE days this half term are Wednesday and Friday. For some of our lessons, like dance or gymnastics, the children will remove their shoes and socks. Please be mindful of this when sending the children in with lace up trainers as we want them to be as independent as possible. The children's PE days may change each half term but we will let you know at the end of each half term what their new PE days are going to be.



The children have been incredible at lunchtime, going up to the hatch to choose their own lunch and carefully carrying their tray to the table. The children tell us in the morning what they would like for lunch and it is always helpful if the children have already had this discussion at home. We also regularly remind the children about the importance of saying please and thank you, as well as using their cutlery correctly. Our Year 3 'Waste Warriors' made a helpful video of how to use your cutlery correctly last year, so we will be using this to support the children with this important skill.

We appreciate that some children prefer to bring a packed lunch to school. Please follow the link for some information about packed lunches which you might find useful [Packed lunch guidance — Active North Tyneside](#) .

Spelling

Each half term the children will have a set of 'tricky' words to focus on. The aim is that by the end of the half term, the children can read and spell these words confidently. The words for autumn 1 are: is, his, has, my, by, of. In addition we focus on one spelling pattern each week, linked to phonics. Our focus for week 3 will be words ending in ff, ll, ss, zz and ck. Our focus for week 4 will be words with the /k/ sound spelled k or nk. The children will practise these words in school throughout the week through a range of activities. There is no weekly spelling 'quiz' in school but a set of words will be available each week on Edshed, an online spelling program. The children can access these words at home to give them some additional practise of the focus sound. Their log in details will be attached to their reading record, and we will send some information to support your use of this program at home. We will be showing the children how to use this in school, but if you have any difficulty with this please let us know and we will endeavour to help you.



Important Messages

- Please can we ask you to check all your child's clothes and their water bottle to ensure they are named. It makes it very difficult to return things to the correct children otherwise. We already have a number of jumpers/cardigans without names so if you are missing any please speak to a member of the year 1 team.
- Please can we ask all children to bring a pair of named wellies to leave at school to support our outdoor learning opportunities if they have not already done so. If you do not have a spare pair of wellies please let us know as we have a number of donated pairs available.
- We appreciate that it is not always easy to talk to staff at the beginning or end of the day. If you would like to talk to your child's teacher you can send us an email and we will get back to you as soon as we can either by email or phone. Please be aware that emails are not always picked up during the school day. If you do need to talk to your child's teacher at pick up time, please wait until all the children have been collected so that this can be done as quickly as possible. We appreciate your patience at pick up time as we get to know all our new families.
- If your child is due to be collected by someone different, you must inform the class teacher. This is best done either at drop off time or by contacting the school office if it is a last minute change, who will pass the message to us.
- While children often want to bring toys in from home, this can cause great upset if things get lost or broken. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that children do not bring their own toys into school.

Reading

We are currently completing our reading assessments to determine the most appropriate reading level for your child. In school, every child reads at least once a week as part of a group. To ensure the children are reading in a group of similar ability, in Year 1 we group the children across the 2 classes which means your child will read with children from both classes and both class teachers during the year. We really value your support with reading at home and ask that you aim to read little and often, 5-10 minutes daily is ideal. Please record this in your child's reading record booklet by circling the days they have read in the 'home' section and you can also record a comment if you wish. The children will change their reading books once a week and take home 2 books at a time. We ask that, initially, you spend time focusing on the red and green words, playing games with them to build your child's confidence. Once you begin reading the story, encourage your child to read these red and green words on sight where possible, which will help to build fluency. Re-reading the same books several times during the week is also hugely valuable to children when building pace and understanding. We will use our assessments to regroup the children and they will bring home their new book on their reading day next week.



Important Dates

Tuesday 15th September—beach clean. Meet at Rendezvous café from 3:30pm—4:30pm
Thursday 17th September—photographers in school for individual and sibling photos.
Thursday 1st October—reading drop in 3:30-4:30pm (more information to follow)
Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October—Parent consultations 3:30-6:30pm
Thursday 22nd October—Y1 Pirate Day

Our Fabulous Pupils!

All of our wonderful children have managed so well with the new class routines this week—well done!

Have a lovely weekend, The Year 1 Team.