

September 2017

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome to Year 1!

The children have made a super start to the new school year and are quickly getting used to the structure and routines in Year 1.

Topic Work: Our first topic this year in KS1 is ‘Why are we called the United Kingdom?’ We have many exciting activities planned to find out about the 4 countries, their capital cities and much more. Art and DT will be taught through topic work and will involve working with textiles. In science, we will be investigating everyday materials; looking at their properties and how they are used. In Year 1, we use a book as a focus to teach all of the reading and writing objectives. The first book we will be using is, ‘The Detective Dog’ by Julia Donaldson. I am sure the children will thoroughly enjoy this book and will be able to produce work to be really proud of. In RE, we will be asking why Jesus is special to Christians and then introduce the children to Hinduism. In addition to all our topic work, we have daily phonics, maths and guided reading sessions. Each child reads in a group situation with the teacher at least once a week.

Home Reading: In the classroom there is a Home Readers box. Please will you make sure your child has their school reading book and record book each morning so that they can place it in the box to be checked and changed if necessary. I will remind the children to do this as well. I would encourage you to read and discuss the books with your child every night for 5-10 minutes as this helps them consolidate their learning. The children who have regular reading time at home make significantly more progress than those who don’t; so I really ask for your support with this.

Homework: Homework is currently given out on a Tuesday and requested back in for the following Tuesday. It may consist of words to practise reading, a maths challenge, or a piece of work linked to our topic or book. On a Friday, spellings will be given out to practise and children will be tested on these spellings the following Friday. Spelling books will be sent home weekly so you can see exactly how your child has got on.

Meet the teacher: On Wednesday 13th September at 3:10pm, we will be holding a 15-minute meet-the-teacher session where we will discuss class routines and answer any questions you may have.

Other: Please could we have any empty egg boxes that you may be about to throw out. The more the better!!

If at any point in the year you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to see me at the end of the school day.

Kind regards

Verity Walker
Year 1 Class Teacher