



Advent Term Newsletter

Welcome to Year One!

I am thrilled to welcome you all back and hope you had a wonderful summer. We have lots of exciting things planned for the children this year and I can't wait to get started on our learning journey.

Here are a few things to get us started;

Uniform

Please name every item of clothing and footwear. We will name items that we notice don't have a name, but this is only in 'sharpie pen' and will wash out after a couple of washes. Shoes only - no trainers please. Stud earrings and no hoops - for PE all earrings should be taken out or covered in tape prior to arriving to school.

We do have a PTFA sale of used uniform throughout the year – watch this space for dates and more info. If you would like to join the PTFA (please let the office know – we really do need help and support to raise much needed monies to benefit all our children).

Book Bags

Book bags are just for the children's educational books please, no food or drink. As we place reading at the heart of all our learning, it really is important that we respect and care for our resources the best way we can.

If the children could please bring their book bags into school each day that would be fantastic, this allows us to work with the children as often as possible and note it in their organisers so you can be kept as up to date as possible.

Water bottles and snack

Only water in the water bottles please. We achieved healthy school's accreditation and as part of this we adhere to no juice in water bottles. The children will be offered (unless otherwise already informed of any allergies etc) fresh fruit/veg every day so there is no need to bring their own snack unless you want to. We normally find that children will be adventurous and try new foods when their friends are doing so (and this could save you time in the mornings)! Again, please name any container you bring into school so that we can make sure we can send it home with them again without it getting lost. If your child would like milk and currently doesn't already have it, then please sign up and pay using the Cool Milk website. This takes up to two weeks to set up – please do let the office know if you have done this.

PE

PE will take place on a Tuesday afternoon and a Thursday morning. Children will be getting changed into and out of their PE kits at school. If you could help prepare your children for this at home by practising, that would really help them out. Our trained Sports Coach will be taking the session alongside the teaching staff. Again, please name everything – this is the time we tend to lose the most items of clothing with no names.

Reading

Reading underpins children's access to the curriculum and it clearly impacts on their achievement. There is considerable research to show that children who enjoy reading and choose to read benefit not only academically, but also socially and emotionally.

The children will continue to take part in practice reading sessions at school focusing on decoding, prosody (reading with meaning, stress and intonation) and comprehension. They will then bring their book home on a Friday to share with you over the weekend. The children will be able to read the book fluently and independently - listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The children will also bring home a library book, this is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

Topic

Our first geography topic this term is 'What do I know about where I live?' We will use maps to locate the different countries and cities within the UK as well as find Shephed, find out how to use a compass and explore what different map symbols mean. Our first RE topic is 'Families'. I am very much looking forward to hearing all about the families within our class.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact me via Dojo, which I will check daily.

With best wishes for a wonderful term.

Miss Cattermole