

Dear Parents,

Firstly, a big welcome to year 1! We hope you all had a lovely summer and are excited to hear about all the wonderful things we have planned for the children this term. In class the teacher will be Mrs Smith on a Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Tebbitt on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Bowditch will be taking the class on a Wednesday afternoon. The teaching assistants are Mrs Edwards who will work in the class on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning and a Friday. Mrs Loveday works on a Wednesday and Thursday. We will also have Mrs Fairbanks as a Teaching Assistant on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon and a Thursday and Friday.

This term's topic is called 'Down the Rabbit Hole'. We will be using Alice in Wonderland as a focus for our learning. We will be focusing on a different part of the story each week to develop key reading and writing skills. Please find information on the other side of the page to see what your child will learn in this term.

**Reading** We aim to change your child's reading books once a week. Please share these books with your child as often as you can and record this in the reading record book. We have a reading lesson four times a week when the children will be doing class and group reading and reading activities. This is the time when the teachers will be hearing your child read and assessing their progress. Any time you spend sharing books has a big impact on your child's progress. Please also spend some time practising the sounds on the card and words to read on the word card. We also run two reading incentive schemes - one where the children get a raffle ticket if they read their reading books 5 times a week and this is recorded by you in their reading record books. When the raffle is drawn the children win a trip to the book shop to choose a book. We also encourage the children to read the books on our 50 books to read list which also earns small prizes.

**Spelling** The children will have a spelling book in their book bags with words to learn each week. There is guidance in the front of the book. We will be collecting these in on a Thursday and they will be given out with new words to learn for the next week on a Friday.

**Handwriting** During Year 1 the children will begin to learn how to join letters in a cursive style. We will be writing words in the spelling books using this style but the children do not need to write using joins straight away. We want them to become familiar with how the style looks and begin to use it when they have learnt the correct formation and when they feel ready to do so. They can still print their words when writing their spellings. A sheet will be put into the reading folder with the correct formation for each letter.

**Phonics** In preparation for the statutory Phonics Screening which takes place in June, your child will be expected to confidently recognise the 40+ graphemes (written sounds). They will be continuing to learn how to use these graphemes to blend (for reading) and segment (for spelling). Initially these lessons will take place in each class, but as the year goes on the groups may be split across the year group and your child may not be taught by their usual teacher for phonics.

**Maths** Please continue to encourage your child to practise counting and writing their numbers 0-100. Children are assessed termly in maths using a mixture of formal and informal 'quizzes'. Each term the children work on Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS). These are things we expect the children to learn and more information in on our website.

Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school and all clothing is named. We will also be sending home water bottles each day so they can be thoroughly cleaned. Please remember to return each day filled with water as this our school policy. Please send in a named pair of wellies. We will be using these for outdoor learning and playtimes if needed.

We hope you find this informative..

Mrs Tebbitt and Mrs Smith



### Science- How are humans and animals different?

- Naming body parts
- Naming and using our senses
- Looking at living and non-living objects

### Science- What are seasons?

- Looking at how summer has changed to autumn



### Geography- Have you ever been lost?

- Compass directions
- Creating maps of our class and school grounds
- Following maps

### English

- Creating lists and labels for Wonderland
- Talking and writing about our own families
- Using adjectives to describe settings used in the story
- Recapping the alphabetic order
- Using capital letters and full stops
- Understanding what a proper noun is



### Maths

Our focus this term is all about number recognition and making sure children are secure with their counting.

- Language of more or less
- Recognising numbers to 100
- Counting forwards and backwards to 100
- Ordering numbers to 100.

### Computing

We will be using a program called Purple Mash for most of our learning.

- Online safety and exploring what we can do on Purple Mash
- Using programs to sort and group data.

### Art and DT

We will be using the story Alice in Wonderland as our inspiration for our artwork.

- Rabbit paintings
- Using plasticine to small characters
- Designing hats
- Making teapots

### PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education)

During our PSHE lessons we will be looking at our bodies.

### Music

In music we will be using a programme called Charanga. Our first topic is called 'Hey You' where children will begin to understand rhythm and learn a song.

### PE

We will have 2 PE slots a week. One taken by Mrs O'Daly who is part of Premier Sports'. The class teacher will take the second the slot. This term we are looking at balance and travelling.

### RE- Religious Education

In RE we are looking at what it means to belong. This will include belonging to families, schools and groups and what that might look like.