

Monday 24th April

Welcome back to Year 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful 2 week break and the children are ready to begin a new term. This is our Year 1 Summer newsletter that will provide you with information needed for our new term. A very warm welcome to our new children and families who joined us throughout the Spring Term.

Coming into school

All classes will continue to enter school via their external classroom doors. Please can we ask that you encourage and allow your child to come into class independently, saying your goodbyes at the door. We appreciate your support with this and it will enable a smooth and prompt start to the school day. During Spring Term we spoke with the children about friendly greetings and encourage them to reply to the adult greeting each morning with a simple 'Good Morning'.

Staffing

The teaching and support staff in Key stage 1 are as follows:

- Miss Barron (Year 1 Teacher)
- Mrs Lofts (Year 1 Teacher)
- Mrs Jones (Year 1 Teaching Assistant)
- Miss Morrison (Year 1 Teaching Assistant)
- Mr Ford (Year 2 Teacher)
- Miss Towler (Year 2 Teacher)
- Mrs Edon (Year 2 Teaching Assistant)

Mrs Baldwin also spends some of her time working within Key Stage 1 during our Read Write Inc lessons.

The Year 1 Curriculum

In Y1 the History and Geography units for the Spring term are 'Where do your favourite animals live?' and 'How has technology changed our lives over the last 60 years?'. Our Y1 Science topics are Animals and humans and Seasonal Change. The work will be carefully scaffolded to meet your child's individual learning needs.

Maths

The children will be taught according to the National Curriculum for Maths. We will be teaching maths in classes and assessing regularly to deliver the curriculum according to each child's individual learning needs. Each week we will study a different mathematical concept and have a pre-test at the start of the week and post-test at the end to help us assess progress. In Spring we will study Place Value to 100, fractions, multiplying and dividing quantities, time, capacity, money and position and direction.

English

The children in Year 1 will continue to follow the Read Write Inc. phonics programme and may go to a different member of teaching staff for these lessons. Children will also complete English based tasks which will include other forms of reading and writing based on the National Curriculum objectives. This half term we will be writing our own versions of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and sharing these stories with the reception children.

Reading

In Year 1 we aim to hear children read and change read, write, inc. books on a weekly. This will be a combination of reading in phonics groups, reading comprehension tasks, guided (group) and individual reading. Children will also read each day in their Read Write Inc groups. Please ensure your child brings their reading record and book to school every day. We are happy to discuss reading or offer any guidance for support and we welcome written and verbal comments from parents in the reading records. Your child's reading book will closely match their phonic level. **We can't emphasise enough the positive impact that regular reading at home has on children's overall progress across the curriculum.**

Homework

Year 1 Phonics Homework is set in RWI groups every Friday to be completed by the following Thursday. Phonics homework is a relevant E- book and/or phonics quiz which will be set on www.oxfordowl.co.uk on a Friday for completion. We have seen a significant decline in children completing their Oxford Owl homework. We encourage the children in class to complete this as it supports their understanding of their weekly text in RWI. If you have any problems accessing your child's Oxford Owl account, please speak to a member of the team and we can support.

Phonics Screening

This term, the children will be completing their statutory Phonics Screening Check. We have been working with the children recapping sounds in lessons and reading a variety of real and nonsense words. Your children will bring home a practise sheet to show you the format of the test and give you an opportunity to support them by practising at home.

P.E

The children will be doing P.E on the following days:

Miss Barron Y1B	- Monday and Wednesday
Mrs Lofts Y1L	- Monday and Wednesday

On their PE lesson days, children will still be asked to come into school in their PE kits. Further details of uniform expectations can be found in our school prospectus [LINK](#)

This term in PE, the children will learn skills in tennis, multiskills, rounders and athletics.

Our school uniform:

- *Royal blue sweatshirts, jumpers or cardigan
- * White shirts or polo shirt
- * Grey or black trousers, shorts or skirts.
- * Plain black shoes or trainers
- * During the summer months, blue gingham dresses or grey/black uniform shorts can be worn.

Uniform with the school logo is not essential or expected - our uniform colour is available at most local supermarkets.

In school we have a stock of high quality, pre-loved uniform which is free of charge. If you wish to enquire about stock availability please email: newtoyou@whinstone.org.uk or contact the school office.

Our PE kit:

- * Suitable PE shoes or trainers
- * **Plain black** shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms * **Plain white** T-shirt.
- * **Plain black** sweatshirt, fleece or hoody. No other colours or large pictures/logos are acceptable for the sweatshirt, fleece or hoody.

NOTE: Football kits or football shirts are **not acceptable** for our PE lessons.

General uniform expectations:

- *No necklaces, rings or bracelets to be worn in school.
- *Small studs for pierced ears - these must be removed or covered by tape on PE days. *Long hair tied back.
- *No nail varnish or false nails.

Named Clothing

To avoid the distress of a child losing any clothing please ensure all items of clothing -including jumpers, coats, and all items of PE kit are labelled with your child's name. **This really helps when items are misplaced.**

Water Bottles

Please can children bring named, individual water bottles into school to be kept in the classrooms. The bottles can contain water, flavoured water or cordial juice.

Pencil Cases

We politely ask that children **do not** bring in their own pencil cases. We provide all of the resources that your child will need in school.

School Dinners and Snacks

All KS1 children are offered a free school dinner through the Government's Universal Free School Meals offer and the vast majority of children take a hot meal at lunchtime. If you prefer to give your child a packed lunch please inform the office to ensure we do not order too much food in the kitchen. Each day your child is also offered a piece of fruit as a healthy snack.

If you have any questions or need further clarification on any points, please feel free to ask a member of the team who are on the doors every morning. Appointments can also be made to talk to class teachers if required.

We are looking forward to teaching your children and are confident that the year ahead will be fantastic!

**Thanks for your continued support,
The Year 1 Team.**