**September 2019**

Dear Year 1 Parents, Carers and Children,

We do hope that you and your families had a restful and relaxing Summer holiday together. The coming Autumn Term is an exciting time for your children, and we will do all we can to ensure that they transition and settle into KS1 happily.

We may have some sunshine still to come so please remember to apply a long-lasting sun lotion to your child before school on warm, sunny days and to send them with a named sunhat and water bottle.

**Spelling**

Once classroom routines are established, we will begin to send home spellings to learn and practise each week. These will usually reflect the phonic work that we do in the classroom. Your child will be given a short list of words to learn on a Friday. The children should then practise these at home using the **Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check** method for each of their words. On the following Thursday there will be a short Spelling Test to see what they have remembered.

## **Homework**

We hope that you will continue to hear your child read regularly at home, aiming for at **least five times** a week. Each child can earn a gold star if they achieve this target and there are certificates to reward regular reading. Please keep records in your child’s reading diary whenever they read to an adult at home. We will help them to **change their books on Mondays and Thursdays.** In addition to reading and spelling homework there will be a selection of ‘Pick and Mix’ tasks, allowing individual pupils to select a challenge each week from a selection of options.

**Topic work**

Our topic this term; ‘**No Place Like Home’** will link our work in Science, Art, Geography and History. The texts we use to inspire our Literacy work will also reflect this topic. The Topic Web on the Year 1 Class page of the school website provides further details.

**Show & Tell**

Your child will have the opportunity to develop their speaking and listening skills during ‘Show & Tell’ sessions. We do ask that items of interest, but NOT toys, are brought in for this. Each group will be allocated a week when they speak to the class.

**Timetable**

**Every child needs to have a water bottle in school daily and a pair of trainers in school for our morning jog.** Our timetable provides Maths and Literacy work throughout the week. On Monday - Wednesday Mrs Clarke will focus on Number work in Maths and Mrs G-A will work on Shape, Space and Measure topics in the latter part of each week. **Forest School** for Year 1 will remain on Friday mornings and your child should come to school in their outdoor clothing on that day. **Outdoor PE** will be on Friday afternoons and **Indoor PE** is on a Wednesday and kit bags can stay in school on your child’s cloakroom peg until half term. Please ensure that you child has suitable footwear for outdoor games, shorts and T shirt, as well as a sweatshirt and some jogging trousers ready for cooler weather.

**Dates for your diary**

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| Wed 4th Sept - Term begins  Mon 23rd Sept - Harvest Festival at Church 1.30pm  Wed 25th Sept – Harvest Service at Church 1.30pm – WHOLE SCHOOL  Wed 16th Oct – Parents Evening  Thurs 17th Oct – Parents Evening  Friday 25th Oct – Break up for HALF TERM | Mon 4th Nov – School re-opens for children  Wed 11th Dec & Thurs 12th Dec – Cygnet and KS1 Christmas Play at 1.15pm  Fri 13th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children  Thurs 19th Dec – Christmas Service at church – 1pm |

Please note that these dates and times are subject to change, but we will endeavour to let you know of any changes in good time.

We are always happy for you to call in after school if you have anything you wish to ask or information or concerns that you need to share with us.

Kind regards,

**Mrs L Clarke and Mrs A Gibbard-Atherton**