



EYFS and Year 1 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2020

We are delighted to be able to welcome back all of our EYFS and Year 1 children and would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new children and families joining us this year.

Mrs Hope, Mrs Eldridge and I would also like to welcome Mrs Oakes into the EYFS/Year 1 team. She will be supporting across all three classes on a Thursday and Friday and is a wonderful addition to our staffing team.

After the unique and bizarre events of the last six months, we could not be happier that we are able to all be back together again. Whilst there have had to be some changes to routines and arrangements within our EYFS/Year 1 provision we are really looking forward to the year ahead.

EYFS Refurbishment

The summer has been an incredibly busy time in the EYFS classrooms and we are so excited to launch our newly refurbished indoor environment! It has been a real Twyford Team effort and everyone here has worked so hard to enable this to happen. We are now just waiting on a few final additions before the transformation is complete. Unfortunately, a proper launch of the redeveloped area is unable to take place as we had planned; however, we will ensure that you are updated with photos and videos as the project reaches its completion.

Curriculum – Autumn Term

We begin the year with our 'Once Upon a Time...' topic. Throughout the term we will be reading, retelling and writing some of our favourite Traditional Tales. Each fortnight we will focus on a different story and plan a range of exciting learning activities linked to that text. This week we start with the much-loved Gingerbread Man. In addition to the Traditional Tales, we will also look at the change in seasons throughout the term, Harvest, Bonfire Night and of course our favourite event of the year Christmas!

PE

We are very excited to have Mr Peacock back for our PE sessions from this week. Reception and Year 1 will have PE every **Wednesday** and **Thursday** afternoon. Please remember to come to school dressed in PE kits on these days. Mr Peacock is planning to do PE outside as often as he can weather permitting so please ensure your child is dressed warmly for the outdoors and is wearing comfortable trainers.

Reception children will not be doing PE for the first two weeks as the sessions will take place in the afternoons, your first sessions will be on **Wednesday 23rd** and **Thursday 24th September**.

Nursery children do not have a structured PE session as so much of our day-to-day provision includes activities to support physical development, however, Mr Peacock will come and visit for a short games session throughout the week. No PE kit is required for children attending our Nursery.

Reading

Year 1 children will continue to develop their word reading skills through the school reading scheme books. They will choose **two** books each week from their colour band to be kept in book bags and move between home and school. These books will be changed every **Monday** for two new ones. Books will be changed once weekly during this term to place greater emphasis on developing reading confidence, fluency and coherence.

All Reception children will be taking home a school reading book linked to their current phonics learning. The first book will be sent home towards the end of this first half term once all children have learnt the Phase 2 Letters and Sounds in their phonics sessions.

Please continue to support us in reading these books at home **daily** to help develop your child's reading progress. All children will receive a reading bookmark which will be stamped for every read that they do at home. Once children reach the different milestones on the bookmarks they will be rewarded for their reading efforts.

All children in the EYFS and Year 1 will have the opportunity to visit our school library weekly and select a book to enjoy with parents and families. Please return this book in book bags after one week, ready for a new one.

Home Learning

Year 1 pupils will now receive a weekly task to support either their Maths, Phonics or English learning. This task will reflect the learning that is occurring in school that week. Your child will also now have 5 spelling words to learn each week, these will be found in your child's reading record. These words will be linked to the National Curriculum's expectation for spelling in Year 1. Please support your child in learning these words each week; they will need to be able to spell these words in order to meet the end of year expectations.

We do not give out weekly homework for children in Reception, however, a home learning pack will be sent home with your child over the following two weeks. Inside will be a range of activities that will help support the learning that we are doing in school. These activities are open-ended and can be completed many times over. The packs will continue to be updated with new activities regularly through the year to reflect the progress in learning that is occurring within school. A guide to the activities will be sent along with the packs but please do not hesitate to speak to myself if you have any queries or questions.

In addition to the home learning tasks and spellings please continue to read daily with your child.

I hope that this newsletter has given you a brief snapshot into the exciting term ahead. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mrs Hope. We are really looking forward to having you all back at school and enjoying learning together again.

Mrs Rumble and the EYFS/Year 1 Team