



Welcome Back Year One!

Dear All,

It's lovely to have the children back in school again and I hope you're looking forward to Year One as much as I am! I know that you may have concerns or worries about your child returning to school. In order to help them settle back in happily, we'll be doing mindfulness and wellbeing activities, and we'll ensure there are open class discussions where the children will be able to talk about how they're feeling and any worries that they might have.

Our Topic this term is Toys: Past and Present

Below is an overview of the learning that your child will be doing this term. There's a lot to look forward to!

 <p>English We'll be reading stories that the children can relate to, starting with the wonderful book, <i>Knuffle Bunny</i>. We'll also be learning about recounts, and labels, lists and captions.</p>	 <p>Maths We'll be covering positional language, finding patterns, counting and comparison, estimating and ordering, regrouping, part-whole addition and subtraction, problem solving, equality and balance, doubling and halving, odd and even numbers and shapes.</p>
<p>RE We'll be learning about some of the beliefs and festivals of Christianity and Judaism. We'll be learning about Creation, how we can be thankful, and why Christmas matters to Christians.</p> 	<p>Science We'll be covering the topics of Everyday Materials. Your child will perform simple experiments to test some materials. We'll also be learning about Seasonal Changes in Autumn and Winter.</p> 
 <p>History Your child will discover how toys have changed throughout history. We'll be looking at how they've changed from the Victorian period through to the present day.</p>	<p>Geography We'll be learning about seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK.</p>
<p>Art/DT We'll be doing textiles in DT this half term. Next half term, we'll be doing wax-resist autumn leaves.</p> 	<p>Music Your child will enjoy learning some old school hip-hop this half term and next half term, we'll be listening to reggae and hip-hop.</p> 
 <p>Computing We'll be exploring Purple Mash, which is the programme that we use in our Computing lessons. Your child will then use this to create pictograms, and group and sort. We'll then begin to look at algorithms through the topic of 'Lego Builders'.</p>	 <p>PE Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday. Please ensure that your child comes into school in their PE kit on these days. If it is cold, your child can wear a plain navy blue, maroon, or black tracksuit with no logo.</p>

Phonics will be taught daily. We'll start by revisiting phase 3 and then we'll cover phase 4 and 5 as the year progresses. Spelling will be taught through Phonics.

Given the current situation, **reading** will be approached differently this year. This is to limit the amount of items that are going between school and home. Your child will choose 2 books on **Thursdays**. One of these books will remain in school and Miss Kitt or myself will listen to your child read and record this in their reading diaries. The other book will go home so that you can listen to your child read. This book must be returned **the following Thursday**. Your child must return this book before we can send a new one home.

It's helpful if you can listen to your child read for 15 minutes each day. Please encourage your child to read the book more than once and to answer comprehension questions on it. Please be aware that this is something that we haven't tried before so we're trialling it. If it doesn't work then we can make changes and then let you know.

Please ensure that your child brings a **named water bottle** into school. This will be kept in the classroom so that they can drink from it throughout the day. Your child will then bring it home at the end of each day.

I'm really looking forward to getting to know your child this year! If you have any questions or queries or you'd like to say hello, then please do let me know. I'll be on the gate every Wednesday morning to greet the children. If you'd like to arrange a more formal meeting, this can be done through the office.

Many Thanks,

Miss Connolly