



Year 1 Autumn Term 1

Hello to the new Year 1 class!

The children have had a great start to the year so far. Everyone has settled in well, getting used to the new routines and trying their best, which is all I can ask for. It can be a big change coming from Reception to Year 1, however, we have tried to make the transition as easy as possible by using continuous provision and keeping an element of the EYFS principles in this first half term.

The purpose of this letter is to let you know about the exciting learning that will be taking place in Year 1.

## English

Over this half term, we will be looking at the book 'Meerkat Mail'. This is one of my favourite books and leads into wonderful cross curricular learning (see topic) and opens up a whole new vocabulary for them. We will develop our writing skills by creating labels, lists, developing sentence structure, use capital letters and full stops, and write simple non-fiction texts.

Whole Class Reading sessions will take place each day. During these sessions, there will be a mix of reading aloud, discussing parts of the text and activities based around the text. All this will help the children become fluent, confident readers with a deep level of understanding.

The children will bring home two reading books in their red bags each day. These books will need to stay in the red bags as we do extra reading. We will put on the front of the reading book bag which day they will be changed. Please read each day with your child. You may only get through 2/3 pages or you might read a whole book. Please do not worry about how much they do, a little everyday will help them so much.

To help your child develop their reading skills they need to:

- Sound out and blend a word themselves. Try not to do this for them unless they are really struggling.
- Re-read the sentence every time they sound out a word (yes, this will take a long time but it helps with their understanding of the text and their fluency).
- Speedy read the sentence so they can understand what they have read.
- Answer questions you ask them about the text (this will show if they have understood it).

## Mathematics

This half term we will be learning and practising skills to enable the children to:

- Understand place value within 10 including: recognition, representing a digit with the correct amount of objects, counting forwards and backwards, more/less, subitising, using tens frames, comparing numbers (greater/smaller) and ordering numbers.
- Use addition and subtraction within 10 including: using part/part/whole models, number bonds up with any number up to 10, add/subtract using a variety of methods, fact families (which numbers can we use to add and subtract e.g.  $3+4=7$   $7-3=4$ )
- Count forwards up to 100 from any number.
- Recognise and name 2D and 3D shapes.

- Place value with 20 including: recognising numbers as digits and as words, more/less, comparing numbers (greater/smaller) and understand tens and ones.

Throughout our maths lessons, the children work practically using equipment which helps them to visualise their learning. Practical equipment is always available for the children and we teach them how to use it effectively. Once they are more comfortable with this, we use pictures and use equations to deepen their understanding.

### **Topic**

Our topic this half term is 'Penguins, Pigs and Possums'. It is a very cross curricular topic which has *Geography* and *Science* at its forefront.

In *Geography*, we will be researching hot and cold areas of the world including the North and South Pole and the Equator, using maps/globes to identify these locations, look for physical and human features, identify seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK and learn new geographical vocabulary.

In *Science*, the children will learn all about animals and the different types that we see around us. This will link to cold/hot areas of the world where we will find out where some animals live and how they have adapted to live there. The children will identify and name a variety of common animals, be able to categorise them into fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals and identify a variety of carnivore, herbivore and omnivores.

Keeping with the animal theme in *Art*, the children will be experimenting with different media to draw and shade. They will draw using observations of animals, build up skills in painting by experimenting with brush sizes and colour and use clay to create 3D animals.

### **Home Learning**

Please encourage your child to:

- Read their reading book each day for 10 minutes
- Practise spelling (given out on a Monday)
- Use the app NumBots to practise counting, subitising, adding and subtracting.

### **PE**

Our PE days are **Wednesday and Thursday**. We have to follow Health and Safety regulations which states that all jewellery must be removed. Please can you ensure that your child does not wear items to school like earrings, necklaces and bracelets. If they do, then children will be asked to remove these and store them in their red bags. Studs must not be worn for PE so also please remove these on PE days.

### **Water**

Please send your child in with water in a bottle each day. If I could ask that you do not put these in their red bags as they may leak and ruin the reading books.

If you have any worries or concerns, you are always welcome to contact me at the beginning or end of the day. My email address is [l.obrien@worsthorne.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:l.obrien@worsthorne.lancs.sch.uk) and I will always try and get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs O'Brien