

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our Class 1 Spring Newsletter. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed cosy warm cuddles by a Christmas tree or fun days out with your family. I'm sure everyone had loads of presents and plenty of yummy foods to fill their tummies! Thank you very much for your wishes, cards and gifts.

We are very excited to have Miss Butler in our team!! A very warm welcome!

What an exciting term is ahead of us!

Our topics this spring term is **"Winter & Clothes"** followed by **"Spring & Plants"**. Most of our indoor and outdoor learning will relate to this.

In **Literacy**, we will be focusing on the stories "The Emperor's New Clothes" and "The Tiny Seed". We will also be reading and sharing lots of other fun stories and rhymes. The children will be learning a skill of storytelling through role play, opportunities to re-tell and adapt stories as well as creating their own!

This term the children will develop their literacy skills by:

- Learning new letter sounds in phonics sessions (introducing diagraphs).
- Learning to read and write tricky words in phonics sessions.
- Learning to read and write new high frequency words.
- Use phonic knowledge to read and write more complex words, phrases and short sentences.
- Learning to write labels, signs, writing lists and captions.
- Developing writing skills such as writing on a line, forming **ALL** letters correctly, use finger spaces between the words, use capital letters at the beginning of the sentence and a full stop at the end.

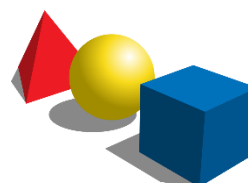


Please make sure your child brings their reading book and yellow Reading Record book to school **every day**. This needs to be read by your child **every day** and marked as 'read' in the yellow record book! Please feel free to comment on your child's reading.

Every time your child reads at home, they will get a sticker and eventually a prize from Class 1 prize jar!

In **Maths** this term, the children will be learning:

- Naming and describing the properties of 2D/3D shapes.
- Learning about calendar and time.
- Recognising and ordering numbers.
- Adding and subtracting.
- Doubling and halving.
- Money.
- Measuring.



In “**Understanding the World**” the children will be learning about water and conducting some water experiments. We will be planting and observe seasonal changes in our garden. We will look at clothes around the world and how children live in different countries.

In “**Expressive Art and Design**” the children will continue to express themselves through play, dressing up, songs, puppet theatre and junk modelling. We will explore sounds and how to change them. We will have fun with drums and create our own music! We will work with fabrics and design colourful pompoms. We will learn about artists and recreate some of their work.

Our **Forest School** sessions will still take place on **Monday afternoons** with **Mrs Hazell** whatever the weather! Please make sure **all** the outdoor clothing items are **clearly labelled** (including the bag) and are kept in school until the end of ½ term. Look out for our Forest school newsletter.

**PE lessons** will take place on **Fridays afternoons**. The children can demonstrate their ball skills during games such as hockey, football, basketball. Please make sure your child has the correct PE items that are also **clearly labelled** in school every day until the end of ½ term.

The children will continue to receive weekly Learning Challenges on a Thursday in their “**To and fro**” book. Please encourage your child to write in the book using their phonic knowledge. It is not essential for Reception children to use correct spellings. Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. Please use letter sounds cards and tricky words cards provided.

It is still very useful for us to have your feedback on how your child learns outside the school. Therefore, we will continue with our “**Popcorn Moments**” to celebrate anything that your child learnt, enjoyed or tried for the very first time. Please write it on a popcorn cut-out that are available in the classroom or from a member of staff. Simply hand it to your teacher or place it on the teacher’s laptop in the morning and we will celebrate your child’s achievements in class. As soon as our popcorn hat reaches the top, the children will enjoy a special treat! Usually we have a Popcorn Party with music, games and bubbles!

Every **Friday** the children may bring a small “**Show & Tell**” item to school for a presentation to the whole class at the end of the day. The children thoroughly enjoy these sessions. The children will learn to ask a variety of questions through “Show and Tell” sessions. Please send in an item on a Friday that is **linked** to the topic.

As always, please let us know if you need further information from us or have any queries at all. This could be done through the office by telephone, e-mail, written letter or verbal message. We are happy to answer any short queries at the end of the day during collection time. Should you need to discuss a matter at length please could you make an appointment at a convenient time.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Mrs Anna Woolfson and Mrs Rosie Butler

