



20 September 2018

Welcome to Year One

Welcome to Year One! We are looking forward to getting to know all the new children and parents who have joined us and have lots of exciting things planned. This term we will be enjoying two whole school topics, covering all National Curriculum key skills: 'Stop! Look! Listen!' and 'Mr Men and Little Miss'. We will begin with focusing on keeping ourselves safe and following instructions. This term, we will design our own signs and observe seasonal changes. The rest of the year is outlined below:

Autumn 1st	Autumn 2nd	Spring 1st	Spring 2nd	Summer 1st	Summer 2nd
Stop! Look! Listen!	Mr Men and Little Miss	Wild World!	Once Upon A Time	Earth, Wind and Fire	To Infinity and Beyond!

The timetable in Year 1 will be different to Early Years and so we have highlighted the key aspects below.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
New speed-reads & homework given, due in the following Monday.		Year 1 Library Playball (Children to come into school with a white t-shirt and leggings/jogging bottoms. Plimsolls will be put on in the classroom.)	Dance with Jane Douglass (Children to come into school with a white t-shirt and leggings/jogging bottoms. Plimsolls will be put on in the classroom.)	8.40 – 9.00 Parent Read-ins Speed-read checks Year 1 Show and Tell

Morning Routines

When pupils arrive in the mornings they are free to come into the classroom from 8.40, but we ask that they do not come in before this time as school staff cannot supervise them. Staff will tick them in from the garden gate and they will be encouraged to enter the classroom independently. This also allows an opportunity for parents to catch-up with staff, and the 'Going-Home book' will be available to record any changes to usual pick-up. Once the children are in the classroom they change their own books and place them in the box provided for checking. Please ensure learning logs are available for checking everyday (even if books do not need changing).

Regular Arrangements

If your child is going to be picked up from school by a named person/or organisation as part of a regular arrangement, please fill in the appropriate form which can be provided by the school office. Please remember for any pick-ups that are not regular arrangements, or in the 'Going-Home book', the person collecting will need to provide the emergency password.

Handwriting

One of our first aims is to ensure pupils have developed an effective pencil grip and correct letter formation for all letters. The handouts sent home via learning logs provide clear guidelines on the school's agreed formation style and should be used when supporting your child at home. If you can get your child to practise their letters on lines, this will support their positioning for tall (t, l, h, k etc) and tail (g, y, j, y etc) letters.

Phonics

The national expectation is that pupils have completed Phase 3 in their Phonics by the end of their Reception year. The handout shows all the Phase 3 sounds that the pupils should be familiar with. It would be helpful to revisit these regularly, reading the sounds within words, and even attempting to spell words containing these sounds. Your child's speed-read words will be based on the sounds they are learning in school. There is a whole school focus on spelling. Please support children to continuously sound out and check their recording for accuracy.

Computers

If your child enjoys using the computer learning to type their full name is a great starting place for practising typing and becoming familiar with the keyboard. If they can start their names with a capital letter this is even better!

Websites

Please visit our school website to download any resources. The link is below:

<http://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk/>

Show and Tell

We love to see what the children have been up to at home, and so there are 'Show and Tell' opportunities in the week. We ask that children share their achievements, extra work or things they have taken time to make, however we discourage toys or gifts being shared. This term we have asked the children for anything to do with safety and seasons. If your child wishes to bring anything in for display, please ensure it is clearly named.

Additional Questions

- Should we correct our child's work if they have any formation or spelling errors?

Children will benefit from working with grown-ups to check any errors in their work. This will improve accuracy. Please aid children to check their work (especially letter/number formation and their use of sounds). We would only expect children to apply the sounds which they have learnt. You do not need to correct every error as this will demotivate children but you can focus on a few at a time. When children are correcting errors, please remind them to cross out using one neat line. We do not use rubbers in school.

- Do children have to finish their reading book (in their Learning Log) every night?

Reading books do not have to be finished over one night. Children can keep the same book over a few days if they haven't finished it. Please read with your children to help them segment sounds and blend for accuracy. Learning Logs do have to be in school every day, whether books are finished or not. Reading comments in logs help us to assess progress.

- What reading comments would you recommend from parents in children's Learning Logs?

School provide weekly reading labels on Friday. Please check these to support areas of development for your child. In the hand-out pack there is a list of example questions for you to ask your child whilst sharing a book. We encourage parents to provide information about what their child enjoyed about the book and any difficulties.

- Do we time our child when practising speed-reads words?

We encourage timing when practising speed-read words because this generally motivates children and builds up their fluency. Children should read and then spell their words on the lines provided. If you find that timing your child is a negative experience then this approach does not need to be used.

We are looking forward to a great first term,
Miss Begum and Miss Flitney