



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 three whole school topics, covering all National Curriculum key skills: 'Zap!' 'Game On!' and 'Rubbish'. We will begin with focusing on superheroes and exploring their characteristics. This term, we will make moving objects and observe seasonal changes. The rest of the year is outlined below:

Autumn 1st	Autumn 2nd	Spring 1st	Spring 2nd	Summer 1st	Summer 2nd
Zap! And Game on!	Rubbish!	One World!	Up up...and away!	Who? What? Where?	Dream Big

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.		Silver 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 Orange Library Orange and Silver 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.

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. 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 handout provides 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/>

'I Board' homework is an interactive way for children to reinforce their learning. This will be updated every half term. The link is below:

<http://www.iboard.co.uk/teacher/year1chestnutlane>

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 superheroes and comics; including books, props or models. 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 sounds). 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.

- Can we add lines to homework sheets, to encourage tidy recording?

Please add any number of lines to help children record neatly. Also lolly sticks can be used as a visual aid to remind the use of finger spaces. You may also hole punch any homework into learning logs to reduce the amount of loose papers.

- How often do children change their library books?

Children will visit the library every week to change their books, however if they have not completed the book then they don't need to change it. Please keep library books safe and tidy.

- 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 for 2 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.

- When is parents evening?

Autumn parents evenings are on Wednesday 2nd November and Thursday 3rd of November.

- When is the Christmas play?

The Christmas play will be on 14th December (with siblings), 15th December and 16th December.

Please check the school website for additional diary dates.

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