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St. Anne's C.E. Primary School

Dear parents and children,

A very warm welcome to Year One, we are looking forward to working with you to make this year really successful.

Last year, in Reception, the children worked really hard on developing their independent learning skills and self-reliance and now are ready to accept and meet the challenges of being in Year One. One of the principle ways that you can help them is with encouraging your child to help to pack their school bag, know what is in the PE kit bag and how to best to hang up their coat. This will make the morning routines easier for them.

It would be very helpful if reading books could be brought to school every day, even if they have not been read/finished. Each child has their own drawer in class and book bags should be put in here each morning. If your child has a large bag, this can be left in the cloakroom and just the books put in their drawer.

We would like the children to have access to water as and when they need it. School water bottles (available from the school office) should be brought to school on Monday mornings and will be sent home on Friday so that they can be washed. Bottles may be brought to school empty and filled in class. If you choose to send a different water bottle, please ensure it has a "sports type" top which locks so that spillages can be kept to a minimum.

Children should have their PE kit in school at all times. This can hang on their peg and will be sent home at half term. Please encourage your child in independent dressing and undressing to speed up PE changing times. We would prefer long hair to be tied back, especially for PE. May we politely remind you that we prefer children not to wear earrings as stated in our Uniform and Appearance Policy.

The children will be given a Homework Journal with a selection of different Homework tasks for the children to complete all related to the central theme that half-term. There will be a hand-in date for marking homework in the Journal but Journals can be returned to school whenever homework has been completed (your child just needs to remember to get it out of their bag and hand it in!). Children may also receive some spelling homework when it is appropriate. Reading books are being issued and a little reading each night, along with discussion about the content, would be beneficial if possible.

It would be helpful at home time if the adult collecting your child could give us a little wave. This will help to speed things up when matching children with the correct adult! Thank you for your support in this matter.

Please read the school weekly newsletter and discuss events with your child. Studies show that parental involvement in a child's education is one of the strongest indicators of student achievement. If you have any questions or concerns, or would like advice on how to support your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. Many thanks for your continued support, we're really looking forward to having a fun filled and successful year,

Mrs Shields and Miss English

