

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. We will pop them into a plastic wallet which can be stored easily in the classroom.

We would like the children to have access to **water** as and when they need it. A water bottle per child should be brought to school **daily** so that your child can have drinks throughout the day. 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 children must 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. Homework Journals with an additional maths task will be **assigned** on **Thursdays** and must be **returned** to school no later than **Wednesdays**. Spelling homework will be assigned on Monday and we do a check Friday. Alternatively, you may wish to upload your child's homework onto our Db site. Reading books are being issued and a little reading each night, along with discussion about the content, really helps.

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. If there is a change to the usual adult please contact the school and let us know.

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 Mrs Peairs