



Year 1 and Year 2 Newsletter - Autumn 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have got off to a really promising start in key stage one. All the children have been coming into school, dressed smartly and very ready for their school day. Their enthusiasm has been contagious! Our topic launch started with an interesting find in the school field of a deep hole which contained many interesting items. We continue to be intrigued by how these items appeared here! Watch this space...

Below is more information about the current Year 1&2 Team-who's who?

Team Name	Seals (Year 1)	Starfish (Year 1)	Hedgehog (Year 2)	Deer (Year 2)
Teacher	Mrs Smyth	Miss Trotter	Mrs Bateson Phase Leader Mrs MacKay	Miss Allen
Assistant Teachers	Mr Cole Miss Smith Mrs Marshall	Mrs Maclean	Mrs Coates	Mrs Chapman

Every Tuesday, the teachers have time for PPA (planning, preparation and assessment). During this time, the children will be taught by our Specialist Teaching Team (the STT). We have a rolling timetable for the STT this year so pupils will change subjects every four weeks. Across the year, pupils will participate in HUB, PE, swimming, computing and OAA sessions. These are led by Mrs Jarvis, Miss Collier, Miss Parry, Mr Jordan and Mr Armstrong. Information has already been shared to identify weeks when pupils will need their PE and swimming kits but reminders will always be given to the children and shared on Class Dojo. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher via dojo or the school office.

As an addition to this, children will all have the opportunity to experience our 'cook school' with Miss Adams and Mrs Bewick. These sessions are part of the curriculum and will endeavour to support with teaching children life skills and also introduce them to a range of foods. A letter will be sent when your child is due to take part which will include information on what is needed (ie. a container). All ingredients and equipment will be provided.

The Curriculum

This term we are reading a text called 'Sam and Dave dig a hole'. The text introduces a concept around not always changing direction as sometimes, we need to stick at something to achieve what we want. Of course, Sam and Dave 'dug a hole' at Braeburn in which we discovered many interesting items. Amongst these was the diary of Samuel Pepys (the great fire of London). We will be exploring this in further detail throughout the term, linking subjects wherever possible to bring the curriculum to life for the children.

In maths, we will be covering number and place value. We are ensuring children can become more fluent with instant recall facts whilst extending them through reasoning activities. Additionally, children will be completing early morning work as soon as they come into school to support them with their arithmetic skills.

This year we have a focus on oracy in the classroom. Children will be taught how to articulate themselves in a range of contexts, how to speak confidently and fluently, how to use their voice to show their understanding and how body language can support speaking. Additionally, year 2 pupils will expand their vocabulary through word of the day, spellings, reading a range of texts and teacher modelling story time.



Homework

We would like to see children reading at home as often as possible. Reading regularly and widely will help to ensure that your child becomes a confident and independent learner. Comments in their reading record will help our staff to move your children on – which maintains the children's pace of progress and their enthusiasm. We also praise children with three dojos for reading at home so make sure they have it written in their reading records. These will be sent home by the end of next week.

Children will also receive weekly spelling homework in Year 2, which we encourage you to explore with your children. We complete a spelling test every week and this counts towards the end of year judgements for writing so it is really important that children practise at every opportunity. We have just joined Spelling Shed and given your children logins for this, so they can practise their spellings online, too.



Remember, Year 2 children have TimesTable RockStars logins so they can practise these at home too!

Attendance and Punctuality

In order for all children to achieve their full potential they must be in school every day, on time and ready to learn. We will set the children early morning work which supports children in starting their day on a positive note, whilst also ensuring children are ready to learn. This work usually helps to consolidate any skills/knowledge previously learnt whilst also helping children prepare for the day ahead. We then follow this up with a check in to ensure children are well equipped for their day.

P.E.

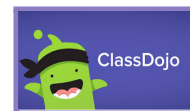
Year 1/2 have P.E and/or swimming lessons on Tuesdays. Please check that your child has a full P.E kit including socks, a white t-shirt, black shorts and trainers or plimsolls; everything should have their name on. We advise PE kit is kept in school at all times. If your child wears earrings, it is school policy that these are removed for P.E. lessons. Please either teach them to do this themselves or remove them before they come to school that day, as we are not allowed to do it for them. Please also make sure that your child brings a bobble on PE days if they have long hair.

Lost Property

We would like to reduce the amount of lost property we accumulate in school. To help us reunite children with lost clothes it is essential they have names on all items of clothing and bags. Please help us by labelling all of your child's property, including P.E. bags, kits and pack up boxes.

Dinner Money and Packed Lunches

All payments are now to be made via School Money. School dinners are £2.20 a day. Please make sure lunch money is kept up to date and any arrears from last term are paid. If you send your child with a packed lunch please remember healthy food options. We will be exploring healthy eating with pupils throughout the year.



Behaviour

Thank you for your continued support with our behaviour policy. We will continue to reward the children using dojos; please let us know if you are not receiving dojo alerts and would like more information about how to sign up to receive these. We also use a traffic light system in the classroom, children are rewarded for WOW moments and we would like to work together to ensure the children don't stray into WOBBLY or UNACCEPTABLE. Should your child find themselves on unacceptable, you will be contacted by a member of staff.

We hope you find the information in this letter helpful and please do let us know if you have any questions.

Best wishes,
Mrs Bateson (KS1 Phase Leader)