Year 1 Autumn Term

September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Autumn term of Year One, we hope that you have all had a lovely Summer! We are looking forward to a busy term ahead; here are some reminders and information for the coming term.

Children's Learning:

In **English** we will be covering a range of genres using Babcock teaching sequences to guide our planning. Our first text is 'Knights by Annabelle Lynch.' We will be learning all about castles and the different roles and jobs people had within the castle. Children will then be writing their own non-fiction texts about a job role they are familiar with.
After half term we will be reading a range of poems and writing our own descriptive poem based on the text 'The Train Ride, by June Crebbin.'

In **Maths** we will be following White Rose Maths units starting with Number and place value. We also deliver a programme in Year One called 'Mastering Number.' This means children receive an extra 15 minutes of Maths a day. This whole class approach focuses on 'Number' and aims to develop their mathematical understanding and fluency.
If you would like to support your child at home with their mental arithmetic then the White Rose Maths 1-minute Maths is a great App to download and let your child play.

Reading: The children can choose two reading books on a Monday and they will be changed the following Monday. They will also be able to choose a library book to bring home and share with you.
Their reading record books will be checked on a Monday morning therefore, if you have any messages for the teacher for the rest of the week, please feed these through to the staff on the gate or via the office, in person or via emails which will be forwarded on to the relevant staff.

Phonics & Spellings: In class the children will receive daily phonics sessions and we will also be working on the Year 1 Common Exception Words (CEW) and topic-based words. Phonics is a big focus during year one as we work towards a phonics screening test in June.

Uniform & P.E Kit: Please could we ask children have a waterproof coat in school with them every day, a sun hat and sun cream applied before they arrive at school if needed.
Ensure that your child is wearing correct school uniform and appropriate black school shoes. Please can they come into school wearing their full PE kit on the days below, ensuring this is in line with the PE uniform policy. Kit needs to be suitable for the weather that day. Please ensure all clothes are clearly named.

PE DAYS
Yew and Silver Birch – Monday and Thursday.

Forest School: Please supply either a waterproof puddle suit or waterproof jacket and trousers and welly boots for your child to keep in school. These should be clearly labelled with your child's name and in a bag that can hang on their coat peg. These can remain in school throughout the term and will be sent home half termly for a freshen up! (Unless individuals get especially dirty which we will communicate with you directly).
If you are unable to supply these items please contact your class teacher.

Belongings: Please can we remind children no toys, games or any other unnecessary items in their bags please, unless it is our show & tell day.

Just a reminder that in Year One we are inviting children to bring in a **small** object to show the class and write about on a **Monday**. Please ensure objects are not expensive or valuable as the children will be responsible for looking after it. Please remind children that they are not permitted to swap items or share items during school hours.

Class Bear: On a Friday, we will choose a child to take home the class bear for the weekend. They can share their weekend with the bear and write or draw some pictures about their special time together. They will then bring the bear and the diary back into class on the Monday ready to share this with their peers. Please do not feel pressured to print lots of photographs or go on extravagant excursions with our bear, it is just as happy cuddled up on the sofa!!

Snack time: We are provided with fruit for the children in Key Stage One for morning and afternoon break. If children chose to bring in their own snack please can these be a healthy choice. There is also the option to buy toast which is provided for morning breaktime and you can sign up and pay for this via ParentPay if you wish.
During school hours we will continue to remind children to drink plenty of water. We encourage all children to bring a named bottle containing **water** so they can easily access water throughout the day.

Lunch options: As you can appreciate with free school dinners being available to all children in KS1, it can take a long time to decide what the children are having for their lunch option. Please read through the menu at home so the children have an idea of what they want and so you can check that they will like that option. Children will then be able to choose their own lunch in the morning.

Communication: Please keep looking at our blog for monthly updates on what we have been doing in school, tapestry for some day to day learning as well as special afterschool events to look at the work on the classroom walls and in their work books. Our overviews show you what your child will be learning each term across all areas of the curriculum. We will be organising a trip next half term linked to our learning in class, more details will be sent out closer to the time.

We look forward to getting to know you and your child.
If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Many Thanks

Mrs Kirk, Mrs Sheldon & Miss Mitchell