



Dear Year 1 parents/carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope that you all have had a lovely break and have made many memories with your friends and family. We are excited to hear all about what the children have been up to on their time off and we are looking forward to an exciting new school year.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few things to help your child settle into Y1.

**Reading at home:**

We will aim for each child to read with an adult by the end of next week and once your child has been read with, they will be sent home with a reading book.

From Week 3, we will change reading books on Mondays and Thursdays. Please continue to hear your child read at home as well as reading other books to them. When you are listening to your child read, be sure to ask them questions about the book to support their understanding and comprehension. Please could you sign or write a short comment in your their reading record to show you have heard them read? We will only change a book if the child has read it at home with you.

**Phonics:**

In school, we use the Floppy's Phonics scheme. For the first few weeks of Year 1, we will be revising sounds they have previously learnt in Reception. Please look out for Floppy Phonics sheets in your children's book bags and go through these again at home with them, particularly words that children have circled. In Year 1, we use the back of the sheet as a place for your child to practise writing words with phonic sounds in, learning helpful (key words) for reading and you will also find the cumulative texts, which are sentences with words including the sounds they are learning. Please go over the back of the sheet at home with your child.

**Maths:**

We will be focusing on numbers up to 10 and practising recognising them and counting forwards and backwards. You can support your child at home by asking them to name numbers they see in their environment (on doors, number plates, buses, etc.) and allow children to count toys and objects at home. Please talk to them about moving 1 toy at a time or touching 1 toy at a time when counting. Another good game is to practise counting forwards and backwards as you walk along the pavement.

We will start setting homework when we feel the children have settled into Y1 and ready to take on this responsibility. In the meantime, please also help your child with the correct formation of numbers.

**Uniform and PE kits:**

Please send your child into school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays wearing full school uniform. From next week, on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** children should come to school wearing appropriate **PE kit** (Alwyn PE t-shirt or plain t-shirt, black, white or green joggers, trainers or plimsolls, Alwyn jumper/cardigan). Earrings should be removed or covered up on PE days for safety reasons.

**Water bottles:**

Every child should bring a named water bottle to school every day. Filtered water is available should they need to refill these during the school day.

**Communication:**

We will continue to use class emails this year. For urgent issues, please contact the school office (office@alwyn.org.uk), as class emails will not be monitored regularly:

BEECH parents please use: [beech@alwyn.org.uk](mailto:beech@alwyn.org.uk)

HAZEL parents please use: [hazel@alwyn.org.uk](mailto:hazel@alwyn.org.uk)

MAPLE parents please use: [maple@alwyn.org.uk](mailto:maple@alwyn.org.uk)

In order for you to hear about all the different things we do in school, we will send out text messages, electronic letters and share information on the school website.

We are looking forward to a fun and productive year and look forward to getting to know you all.

Best wishes,

**Year 1 Team**

6.9.2023