



# LYMINSTER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wick Street, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 7JZ  
www.lyminster.w-sussex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. S. McGinley  
Email: office@lyminster.w-sussex.sch.uk

Telephone No. (01903) 713642  
Facsimile No. (01903) 732013

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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to your child's final half-term in Year 1. We have had a fantastic year and look forward to ending on a high!

## Our Topic – The World in Our Hands

Our first week is STEM Week, which focuses on scientific enquiry and applying maths skills, and ends with Dragon's Den. We cannot wait to hear the children's thoughts and ideas! Following positive feedback from parents and children, on **Thursday 18th July** we will have a **dress-up day** to finish our topic. Your child may come to school dressed up as any animal that they would like to protect from extinction. It would be lovely if your child could carry out some research about their chosen animal to present on the day.

Our topic will have a Personal, Social and Emotional Development focus, linked to our role as a Unicef Rights Respecting School, as well as providing opportunities for children to demonstrate and develop their cooking skills and consider the elements of a healthy diet. We will be focussing on age-appropriate stories and non-fiction texts with environmental themes, as well as listening to a range of poetry.

In order to celebrate and share our learning, we would like to invite all parents/carers to the Year 1 classroom for our **Parent Showcase on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, from 2:45pm-3:15pm**. Children will be producing a video pledge about global awareness for our community, and would love to share it with you!

## Reading at Home

As the **Phonics Screening** takes place the **week beginning 10th June, 2019**, and as your child prepares to move on to Year 2, it is vital that your child continues to read every day in order to consolidate and develop their reading skills. If they are to leave Year 1 at the expected standard, they should now be confidently blending sounds to read more complex words, including digraphs and trigraphs (two or more letters making one sound), as well as recognising many common words by sight.

In order to encourage children to read, we will continue with the class Reading Challenge. Our class target remains 100 or more daily reading entries in their Reading Diaries in one week, in order to receive a class treat. We have really seen the impact of home reading recently and strongly encourage you to continue, as this has such a positive effect on your child's learning. We also celebrate regular reading with reading certificates awarded in celebration assemblies for the number of times the children have read. Please help us to monitor this by numbering each reading entry in your child's reading record, one number per day (rather than one each time they read). **It is important that your child's reading books and Reading Diary are in their book bag every day as we like to take every opportunity to read!**

At home, please encourage your child to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction. Reading widely and often increases pupils' vocabulary because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech. It



would really support your child if you could help them to do this. Please also continue to read aloud more difficult texts and favourite books to your child.

We would like to remind you about Lyminster's popular Family Reading sessions on Friday mornings 9.00am - 9.20am. Everyone is welcome and children really look forward to seeing you and their siblings there!

### Homework

Homework in Year 1 this half-term will focus on Maths, Reading and Handwriting. In readiness for Year 2, your child should sit correctly at a table to write, holding a pencil correctly, beginning to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place, and forming capital letters. Don't forget that you also have free access to our handwriting website: <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk>. The username is **ak3814** and the password is **home**.

If you would like to support your child with additional maths home learning, please support your child to read and write numbers to 100 as digits and to 20 as words. Children should also be starting to tell the time to the hour and half hour.

Please continue to read a range of fiction, poetry and non-fiction books, comics, newspapers, etc. with your child. We will change school reading and library books on a weekly basis.

We love seeing all the captions, stories, diaries and fact sheets that your children have made so please keep encouraging any independent or supported writing at home.

### Volunteers

Once again, a huge thank you to the regular volunteers who kindly help in Year 1. It is still not too late to volunteer, so if you would like to help in any way within the classroom, please come in to discuss this further. We would love to see more of you, especially to support reading, even if you cannot commit to a weekly slot!

### Named Clothing

Please ensure that all clothing is regularly checked to ensure that items are clearly labelled (including P.E kit, book bags and water bottles) and are the correct size. During periods of sunnier weather, please also provide your child with a named sunhat. Please continue to ensure that your child brings a named coat to school every day as we will go outside daily, regardless of the weather! Also, please check that your child has a full P.E. kit.

### Communication

Please check the Year 1 whiteboard next to the outside door of the Year 1 classroom, when picking your child up from school. We will use this to remind you of any upcoming events and to pass on any other general information, in addition to the usual texts and emails. Please remember to let the office know if any of your telephone or email details have changed. As always, we operate an open-door policy, so please speak to a member of the Year 1 team if you have any individual concerns or questions. We are also happy to make an appointment to chat over the phone if you are unable to come to school.

As always, we look forward to lots of fun, adventure and discovery this half term!

Kind regards

Miss Smith, Mrs Rusbridge and Mrs Bennett  
Year One

