

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the new school year - we hope you have all had a good summer. We are really looking forward to getting to know your children and starting all the exciting learning activities together.

Our work this term is based on the picture book 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. In Year One, we take time to really explore our main novel. Our literacy work will link to the book through the whole term, with the children becoming immersed in the story as it slowly unfolds. Although your child may already be familiar with this story, we encourage you not to read ahead so that we can keep a sense of anticipation. We will be basing reading and writing tasks on the book, concentrating on settings and descriptive work, as well as including an exciting mix of drama to bring the story alive to the children.

Both our history work and our science topics will link with ideas from the book.

Our numeracy work will mostly be number, place value, addition and subtraction with regular investigations to deepen our understanding and apply our skills.

This half term our PE lessons will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will be working both inside and out and so will need kit for both. When working indoors we usually have bare feet, so please let us know if your child needs to wear plimsolls, and remember to leave earrings out on those days. Please make sure that your child leaves their full (named) PE kit in school all week.

At home, please listen to your child read at least three times per week and write in the reading record. Books and book bags need to be in school every day. Homework will be given out once per month on a Friday, starting on Friday 13th September. Any homework completed can be handed in on Wednesdays and will be returned on Fridays. Spellings will be once a week but will not start immediately, giving us chance to assess the children's needs.

We encourage the children to drink plenty of water during the day, and it would be helpful if they had a named water bottle in school which should be refilled each day.

We are really looking forward to working with your child this year. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak to either of us (at the end of the day is best, unless it is urgent)

Best wishes,

Mrs Pryce Miss Lewellen

Remember – you can keep up to date with all our news by visiting the Class 1 pages on the school website.