

25<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Dear Key Stage 1 parents and carers,

We are really pleased with all of the hard work and progress the children have been making in Year 1 and Year 2 so far this term. We have been looking at all of their books and they are producing work of a high standard which they can be proud of!

However, we appreciate that there are also a range of emotions at this time of year - some children are very excited (Christmas is getting closer!), while others are feeling rather tired as we are now in week 11 of a rather long term. As a result, we wanted to let you know how we are supporting the children and how you can help us in the run up to the end of term.

Over the next few weeks there will be several nativity rehearsals and other exciting activities such as Decoration afternoon next week. We try to talk through all these activities with the children in advance, so they know what to expect. We do keep as much structure to the school day as possible. We will also give the children plenty of opportunities to talk through their feelings in PSHE lessons and in Bubble Time.

Children can find any changes to their regular timetable a little unsettling and we can see emotions come to the fore at these times e.g. getting more easily upset at things that would not normally bother them and falling out with each other.

The presence of Pokémon and football cards at school has been proving to be fun and engaging for many children and some children have been enjoying bringing their own toys for activities such as Golden Time or Butterfly Club.

However, in this last week we have noticed that children bringing in their own cards and toys has been causing some upset and frustration, and has also been leading to some children getting cross with each other. As a result of this, **we would like to ask you to stop all cards and toys coming into school for the rest of the term.** We really appreciate your support with this request.

Can we also take this opportunity to reassure parents that we deal with any challenging behaviours according to our school policy and we ensure that any behaviour that could disrupt learning is managed promptly and effectively. It is paramount for us that all our children feel happy and safe at school. We always try to let parents know if there have been any issues at school so you can support us in ensuring all our children make the right behaviour choices going forward.

We thank you for your ongoing support!

Zoe Hussain