

Alderman Pounder Infant and Nursery School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after the summer holiday. We hope you had a lovely time and that everyone is relaxed, rested and raring to go for an exciting year ahead! We would like to give a particularly warm welcome to Mrs Banks who has joined the Key Stage 1 team as one of the Chestnut class teachers, we are so looking forward to working with her!

This year the school is launching our new curriculum across all year groups. Each term there will be a key question to stimulate the learning for a new topic. There will be lots of opportunities for creative and exciting activities to help the children in their learning and we will also be putting a particular emphasis on the children's personal, social and emotional development. This autumn term our key question will be '**Can one person really change the world?**' We will be developing our skills in asking and answering questions about the past and finding interesting ways to share what we have learned with others. While we start by looking at different significant people we will very soon be focusing on one mystery person, keep your eyes on class dojo for a clue about who this will be.

Later on in the term all five classes will also be going on a trip to support our work on this topic; more information about this will follow shortly.

Reading is still really important and we would like to ask you to read as regularly as possible and at least four times a week with your child. Little and often makes a huge difference. Class teachers will give children opportunities to get a new book at a suitable time during the school day so you don't need to change their book for them! If your child hasn't changed their book for a while despite your reminders just let their teacher know. We will be sending children's book diaries and reading books home in a plastic wallet. Please can you ensure that they keep them in this to both protect the books and to make it easier to transfer them from their school bag to their trays.

In Key Stage 1 children need to bring a clearly named bottle of water to school on Monday. The water is refilled each day and children bring the bottle home on a Friday for a thorough wash.

Please make sure that all items of clothing, especially PE kit, have your child's name clearly marked. This helps us track down and return any clothing which may get mislaid. The children need to bring their PE kit in as soon as possible if they haven't done so already and it will stay in school until the half-term break.

We always welcome helpers in class to hear readers or support group work. Due to some statutory changes volunteers now need more checks. Please don't be put off by this and if you are interested in helping please speak to your child's class teacher.

We hope this information has been useful to you. As always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask! Thank you for all your support, we're looking forward to a busy and exciting term!

The Key Stage 1 team

