

MARY EXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Angharad Paterson
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5th September 2018

Dear Parent & Carers

Welcome to Year 1, Sapphire class. I hope you have enjoyed a restful summer and your child is ready for the busy, but exciting year ahead.

The information in this letter is intended to advise and remind you of the expectations in Year 1. We would like to develop a working partnership with you to enable your child to reach their full potential. The Year 1 team are here to help and support you and your child at Mary Exton School.

Class Teacher – Miss Rebecca Graddon

Teaching Assistant – Mrs Anne-Marie Day

Parent Surgery

It is important to encourage your child to share concerns with us during the school day, as we would try to resolve them immediately, rather than going home with worries. If you have any problems please book an appointment for our Tuesday parent surgery. However small the problem, it is always better to deal with any concerns immediately. Appointments can be booked via the school office.

Autumn Term Curriculum Coverage

Please see the attached Year 1 Curriculum Map for the Autumn term. This provides an overview of the key topics and skills that will be covered this term.

During the Autumn term, Year 1 we will be focusing on writing simple sentences based on Narrative Stories in English, working with numbers to 20 in Maths and learning about Animals including humans in Science up until half-term, incorporating the National Curriculum through a thematic approach.

Reading

Children are expected to read aloud at home to an adult every day. This is to be recorded in their Reading Record books which will be checked throughout the week. Books are changed in school on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and two books will be sent home. Our focus in Year 1 is to read high frequency and common exception words on sight and develop comprehension skills. At the same time children will need to hear, share and discuss a wide range of high-quality books to develop a love of reading and broaden their vocabulary.

Phonics

Children will be issued with phonics practice on a Friday. The phonemes and words will be linked to the previous weeks learning. This will enable children to consolidate what they have learnt.

Spelling

The children will continue to learn their Rainbow Words and tested during the week.

Topic grid/Learning Logs

The topics of this will vary from week to week according to our subject focus. Learning logs will be sent home on a Thursday and need to be returned on Tuesday. Children should spend approximately 20 minutes on each task.

Class Bear

In Year 1 we have a class bear. The class bear goes home on a Friday and should be returned to school the following week. He has his own book for your child to record anything exciting that he might have got up to during his visit. The children will take it in turns to take the class bear home each week.

PE

It is important to have a PE kit available in school all week. The children need a labelled PE kit and trainers for when we go on the field. If the children do not have their PE kit, they will be unable to take an active part in the lesson. If this was to happen on a continuous basis you will be sent a reminder.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child wears appropriate school uniform at all times and that it is all named.

Equipment

Can you please ensure that your child has the following items in school at all times:

- A water bottle
- P.E. kit including spare socks and underwear
- Wellies for playtimes in wet and winter weather

Educational Visits/Workshops

Each term we look at the appropriateness of planning educational visits and workshops to support our topic areas. We are hoping to book a Guy Fawkes workshop in school for the end of Autumn 1. This will cost approximately £10. Further information will be provided in due course.

If you have any queries or worries please do not hesitate to contact us and arrange an appointment. We look forward to working in partnership with you and your child.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Graddon
Class Teacher