

Wagtails Class Curriculum News: Autumn Term 1 2018-2019

Welcome to Wagtail Class!

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer and are ready for another exciting year in Wagtails.

The Year 1 children are already showing increased independence and maturity as well as renewed eagerness and readiness to learn. They are being very supportive and welcoming to our newest and slightly smaller Wagtails. Well Done Year 1.

The adults working in Wagtails are enjoying getting to know the children and their interests. The children in Wagtails learn through play. The activities set out in the classroom and in the outside area encourage a range of key skills which reflect taught sessions during carpet times. The children can then take part in child led or adult supported activities and choose to learn inside or outside.

Our first whole school theme this year is ***Scrumdiddlyumptious***; in Wagtail Class with the help of the **How to find a Fruit Bat** story we shall be exploring fruit and vegetables and animals that also eat fruit and considering the importance of healthy eating.

The children are asked what they would like to learn and a lot of the activities are based around what they would like to find out. This encourages their love of learning and curiosity, but some of our Super Starters to spark their ideas are outlined on the attached mind map.

Morning Routine- A member of staff will open the gate to Wagtails and welcome you into school. **(Please may I ask no one enters the outside area before this as activities will have been set up for the children to enjoy during the day.)** The children will then need to hang up their coat in the cloakroom and will have 2 small tasks before a more formal registration will begin. Firstly to put their book bag into the correct coloured box. Secondly to use the interactive whiteboard to select their lunchtime arrangements before exploring some of the activities set up. As the children (and you!) settle into their new routines I warmly welcome parents/carers to bring the children right into the classroom and see them settled into their early morning task should you wish to. However I ask all parents/carers have said their goodbyes and left the classroom by 9:00am to ensure a smooth transition to formal registration and Collective Worship. I thank you for your co-operation with this.

A Week in Wagtails

Monday- Cooking. I hope you enjoyed the children's first sample of cooking for this year (with courgette grown in school by gardening club and the new Year 1's).

If you would like your child to bring home what they have cooked we ask for a termly contribution of £3 or £18 for the rest of the year. Payment for is now due. School's preferred method of payment is via ParentPay.

Cooking allows the children to acquire essential Mathematical and Scientific skills as well as developing skills in using a range of tools and equipment. It gives the children an understanding of the need for food hygiene and knowledge of food, recipes and the opportunity to try new foods.

Please can you make sure you have informed school if your child has any allergies to food.

Tuesday PE. Please ensure long hair is tied back and ear-rings are removed. **PE will be indoors this term so children will work barefoot.**

Thursday- Welly Walking- Please make sure that your child has wellies, waterproof trousers and a waterproof coat in school as we will walk in all but the most severe weather. **It would be helpful if these could be left in school on their outside pegs during the week so the children can maximise the use of our outside area in all weathers.**

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Friday- Wagtail's Star Bear- Wagtail's star of the week will be allowed to take home a class bear, along with the bears' scrap book for the weekend. It would be really lovely if you could work with your child, on their turn, to complete a page of the scrap book about what your child and the bear have done that weekend. This could include pictures, writing or anything your child wishes to include. They will then have the opportunity to share this work and their adventure with the bear the following week.

Home Learning

All Wagtails- Literacy/English- We expect 5 minutes daily practice of phonemes (letters and sounds) to be learned each week, sight vocabulary/spelling based on phonics and word recognition and 5 minutes reading of reading book daily. New tricky words and sounds will continue to be sent home it would be hugely beneficial for the children to begin being able to spell (write) these as well as read them.

Year 1 only at this time- Maths- Weekly Maths game/activity or practice of basic Maths skills.

Year 1 only at this time- Learning Log- a Fortnightly learning log task, an imaginative and individual record of learning linked to a weekly learning challenge.

All home learning experiences to be recorded in blue Home-School book.

Blue Home-School Books-Please note how your child approaches their letters and sounds/reading/Maths games and what they achieve and/or any other information you wish to share with myself in their blue home school books. These books are checked daily.

Please can book bags and their contents be brought to and from school every day.

Reminders:

- Please can I remind you to ensure all gates around school are securely closed and fastened behind you, this ensures the safety of all our children.
- It is very helpful if all items of clothing (including coats and wellies etc) are clearly labelled this will not only help your child begin to take responsibility for their own belongings but help us return them more swiftly should they become lost.
- We actively discourage children from bringing in toys from home due to the distress it cause should they get lost or broken.

I hope you find this information useful, do please regularly check on our class page of the website for what has been happening in the classroom.

If you have any questions or wish to come into the school to help in the classroom, please do not hesitate to come in and see me or write a note in the blue home-school book.

Yours sincerely

Miss K. O'Connor
Wagtail's Class Teacher