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**Welcome to year 1.**

Hello, My name is Miss Yarnold and I will be your child’s teacher this year. We are also lucky enough to have 3 wonderful teaching assistants; Miss Haywood, Mrs Kenny and Mrs Smith. I am very excited to join such a wonderful school and I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child better over the coming year. We have so many exciting things planned!

I have put together this little information pack so that we can work together to ensure that your child has the most successful and happy year possible.

In year one we do a mixture of independent learning and formal lessons. As the year progresses we will slowly increase the amount of focused work time your child has, to prepare them for the coming years. But for now, your child will be expected to sit in a focus-group, for up to 30 minutes.

**Phonics and Reading**

Inside the pack you will find a copy of all our phonics phoneme (sounds) and graphemes (letters). In phonics lessons the children are learning to match the letters to the sound that they make. Your child should have already looked at phases 2 and 3 in reception and will begin to look at phase 5 soon. To help with their phonics knowledge you could look out for them when reading or revisit a different sound before you start reading. This will help them when they do their ‘national phonics check’ in the summer. Additionally, there is a copy of  ‘tricky’ words that come up a lot and cannot be sounded out phonetically. The children love to play detective and spot these in the book.

Every child will be expected to read for 15 minutes every night. They must have at least 3 reads signed off in their reading diary every Friday. Children who have not completed their homework will have to stay inside during golden time to read. If you find that your child is not interested in reading a book then they could try the lexia programme. They each have a login to their lexia accounts stuck into their reading diaries. This may be used as an alternative to reading ONCE each week. To assess your child’s comprehension and understanding I have also added some guided read prompts. These can be used when they’re listening to a story that is being read to them or when they are reading for themselves. By the end of year 1, national guidance suggests that children should be reading turquoise books. I have attached a copy of the colour chart so you can see how much progress your child should be aiming to make. We will do all we can to support this in school but reading at home makes a HUGE difference.

**End of year Expectations**

I have also included a copy of the year 1 writing and maths expectations. These are what the children should be achieving by the end of the year. We have lots of time to work towards these goals so please do not panic. They’re labelled ‘working towards’ ‘working at’ and ‘working at greater depth’ as we recognise that the expectations cannot be the same for each child.

**Water bottles and snacks**

Children must bring a water bottle every day. If it is forgotten they can get one from the office but you will be charged £1 through parent pay.

Children can bring in fruit or a healthy snack such as a cereal bar, rice cakes, cheese or yogurt. Children cannot be having chocolate or crisps at break time.  There is school fruit provided every day but this is not always a big portion.

**Relationship and Sex Education**

We do not cover any sex education in KS1. We do however look at healthy relationships and keeping ourselves safe. These are our units this year:

• Families and people who care for me

• Caring friendships

• Respectful relationships

• Being Safe

**Uniform**

Please ensure that your child comes to school with the correct uniform and black shoes whenever possible. (we understand that with children things happen and this is not always possible). Please ensure that your child brings in their PE kits on a Monday and I will ensure that they go home with them on a Friday. Finally, please label all of your children's clothing. Without labels it is really difficult to get them back to the right person and things go missing really easily.

**Contact**

I am always available via dojo. I try my best to reply to them as quickly as possible, however, it is not always possible, especially during the school day. If you have any problems logging on then please let me know and we can get it sorted. Alternatively, you can see me on the door in the morning or after school. If it is urgent then please ring the school office.

I appreciate that this is a lot of information. Thank you for your support, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Many thanks, Miss Yarnold.