

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This newsletter will provide you with some useful information about what your child will be doing this half term. However, if there is anything that you are unsure about, please feel free to catch us at the end of the day or drop the office an email.

Big Idea

This half term we will be looking at the question 'How do we keep busy and healthy?' and the children will be answering questions on our learning journey that will enable them to write their own poem about how to be busy and healthy.

English

Firstly we will be exploring dictionaries, why they are used and how to use them. Then we will be looking at poems before writing our own about being busy and healthy.

Maths

We will begin by counting in 10s before going onto grouping then arrays and division by grouping and sharing.

P.E. Kit

Please make sure your child has a full P.E. kit in their lockers for the whole half term. This includes a t-shirt, hoodie or jumper, trousers or shorts and suitable shoes. Please make sure that the items of clothing that your child wears fit them suitably.

Reading Books

Please make sure reading books and reading records are in school EVERY DAY. These need to be kept in the plastic wallet inside your child's book bag. To ensure children are accessing a book that only covers graphemes they know, we will continue to change books and check records each Friday. However, we understand that reading the same text 4 times can be tedious. Rereading a text is a very valuable exercise for Year One pupils as it helps to build fluency and we would like children to read their school book a couple of times, but reading at home can be a combination of reading the school book along with other material. For example, read the school book on Monday and Tuesday and then a book from the library or home on Wednesday and Thursday. This would all go towards the target of 4 reading sessions at home. If the books are not returned, we cannot change them or award stickers for regular reading at home (4 or more times). We have a limited supply of home reading books, so PLEASE return the book each week. If you have any questions regarding reading at home, please let us know.

Library Books

The library book that your child has chosen to take out of the library goes home with them. This is to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader. It is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

Phonics

Many parents have asked about how to support Phonics at home. Please use the following link to help you:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

This link is also posted in the Year 1 stream on Google Classroom.

Click on the tiny, orange '**here**' in the first paragraph to find the overview, including tricky words, for Year 1. This will also enable you to find the new graphemes that are taught in Year 1.

How to Help Your Child at Home This Half Term

Here are some ways in which you can support your child with their learning:

- Reading, sharing and enjoying books together
- Regular Phonics grapheme practice
- Counting forwards and backwards within 100
- Solving problems involving addition and subtraction
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Ordering numbers
- Encourage your child to dress and undress themselves independently
- Practising doing up and undoing buttons
- Practising writing different sentence types e.g:
Simple - ***The dog is sleeping.***
Compound - ***The car is black and it has big wheels.***
3A - ***The carrot is orange, wonky and long.***
- Looking at child friendly dictionaries and help them to find words

Please see the Helping Your Child at Home section on the Year One page of the school website for more information.

If you have any questions, please come and speak to us and we will do our best to help you.

Kind regards,

The Year One Team