

## Meet the Teacher

### Year 1 2019-2020

Welcome to Year 1, a new and exciting year ahead! The class will now begin following the National Curriculum for Key Stage One which spans across both Year 1 and Year 2. This is different to the EYFS curriculum in that it is split into different subjects including English, Maths and Science. An overview of this is attached to this letter. The learning will still be topic based and subjects will be taught through our creative approach that is used across all the classes in our school. For your information I have attached the long term plan for this academic year which details the topics and what will be taught in each subject area. Please note that this is not set in stone and may differ as the year continues.

### Uniform and PE

Please can you make sure that all the uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name so that they can be found and returned easily if lost. Children will need to bring a coat in to school each day throughout the Autumn and Spring term to wear during play times. PE kits should also be labelled and need to stay in school all week, as extra PE sessions may happen. Year 1's regular PE slot is on a Friday morning.

### Reading Books

The children have continued with the home reading scheme from Reception Class. They will bring a book home each evening, along with their reading record. The focus is on children *reading for pleasure* and we will only move children on to the next reading stage when they have read the majority of books in their current band. Please encourage your child to read as regularly as possible; this is not about quantity but quality. I would expect them to read for 5-10 minutes with opportunity to apply their phonics knowledge in reading the text as well as time to discuss what they have read too. They need to have a good comprehension of what they are reading not just focusing on reading the words. Please can you make a note of what they have read in their reading records so we are able to continue on from this in the classroom.

### Homework

The children will have regular homework that will help them to consolidate what they have been learning in class. They will have spellings every Thursday that will be sent home in their spelling books and we will have a 'spelling quiz' the following Thursday to check their progress in this. These will be words from the high frequency word lists linked to the phonics programme, and the exception words for Year 1. I have attached a copy of these words. Each child will progress at their own pace and the set of words sent home will be personalised for them. By the end of Year 1, the expectation is for children to be able to read and write all of these words. We will continue with our 'Unhomework' approach too where this gives the children an element of choice in what they do. I will send further information at the time about this.

### Parent Readers

If any parents, or grandparents, could spare an hour or so each week to hear the children read in class I would be really grateful. Please make a note of which day suits you on the sheet provided or come and see me to arrange a suitable time.

### Forest School

Mrs Andrews will continue to take the children to Forest School on Wednesday mornings and, the same as last year, this will alternate with Reception Class on a half termly basis. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn in a different environment to the classroom which is invaluable for their learning and development.

### Fruit and Water

There is a water station in the classroom, just like the children have been used to in Reception Class. They can have a drink at any point during the school day. If they would like to bring their own bottle of water in from home then please could this be named and they can store it at the water station. They can have milk at play time if you would like them to, however now they have turned 5 this is no longer free and you need to pay for this at the school office. Children are provided with fruit daily that is delivered to school. They can also bring fruit in from home if they would like to which they can store in their drawers in the classroom.

### Show and Tell

This was such a popular time of the week in Reception Class and we will continue to have it every Friday. Children can bring something special to them or to celebrate with their class on this day only. They are not to bring any toys in to school to prevent any unnecessary upset if they lose them. Thank you.

### Class Diary

Each week the children will take it in turns to bring home the class diary. This will be accompanied by the class bear, who the children will be choosing a name for soon. This gives children the opportunity to write in the diary about what they have been up to over the weekend and during the week that they have it. They will then be able to share this with the rest of the class, every Thursday. Please encourage your child to write in this with independence particularly in sounding out the words they need, however supporting them in thinking of the ideas to write. You can include photographs too if you would like to.

If you need to speak with me about anything, please use the reading record as form of communication for non-urgent matters. If you need to speak with me then ideally the best time is at the end of the school day. However, if needed, you can speak with the office staff in the morning who will come and find me in school. You can always call school too or email me [ht66@holyredeemer.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:ht66@holyredeemer.worcs.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to a wonderful year ahead with your children- they are a great class.

Miss Taylor

Year 1 Teacher