

Year 1/2 Newsletter (Autumn A 2017)

Welcome back to school for everyone!

All members of Key Stage One are very excited to get the new academic year off to a flying start. We have so many exciting things happening in Key Stage One this year.

Here is a summary of our classes and their teachers:

Year 1- Camels- Miss Goulding

Year 1- Owls- Mrs Browne and Mrs Murphy

Year 1- Giraffes- Miss Medlow

Year 2- Dolphins- Mrs Lally and Mrs Emberton

Year 2- Bats- Mrs Dunsdon and Mrs Bralee

Year 2- Osprey- Miss Gray

Learning in Year One

Some parents have been asking the Year One teachers how Year One will be different from the learning that took place in Reception. As the children adjust to being in a new setting and having a new class teacher they will continue to have some opportunities to learn through play. The children will also have some time where they will be learning in a more structured way. By the end of Year One the children will spend less time play based learning. Your child's class teacher will make this transition as seamless as possible by providing a range of meaningful learning opportunities which will cater for all learning styles.

PE

In Key Stage One PE takes place twice a week for each class.

Please see the timetable below:

	Osprey	Bats	Dolphins	Giraffes	Owls	Camels
Indoor PE	Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Monday	Monday	Monday
Outdoor PE	Friday	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday	Friday

Please can we ask that PE kit stays in school for the entire half term to ensure that the children always have their PE kit. Please can you make sure that earrings are removed and hair is tied back on PE days.

This is what your child will need:

Indoor PE Kit- White T-shirt, navy shorts.

Outdoor PE Kit- White T-shirt, navy jogging bottoms, navy warm top, trainers or plimsolls. Outdoor PE takes place in all weathers so it is really important that your child has these clothes to keep them warm and dry.

Your child can wear the same T-shirt for both types of PE.

Please can you also ensure that all of your child's PE kit is named.

Homework

At Thorndown School we endeavour to make homework engaging and inclusive. Our aim is for children to take pride in completing a creative piece of work that they can be proud of. Homework is brought into school and shared as part of a class 'show and tell' session. Children have the opportunity to talk about their work.

Homework is sent out half-termly in Year Two and will begin after October half term. It consists of a range of 6 tasks which are all linked to the learning that children have been doing at school. Children have four to six weeks to complete at least one task depending on the length of the half term.

Homework will begin in the Summer term for Year One pupils. In the meantime, Year One children will bring home a Phonics bag of sounds which will give parents a chance to see the sounds which have been the focus at school in the preceding week and practise at home.

In addition to this, your child can access Skoolbo 24 hours per day for free from a tablet or laptop computer by logging on to www.skoolbo.co.uk. A link to this site can be found on the school website. If you have a tablet/iPad you can also download this learning program as an application in the App Store. There are some handy guides for parents on the Skoolbo website.

Here is a look ahead to what your child will be learning this half term:

<h3>English</h3> <p>Year 1- Labels, lists and captions Year 2- We will be establishing the Year 2 non-negotiables (<i>finger spaces, capital letters and full stops, neatest joined handwriting, writing on the line, accurate spelling of known words</i>) We will also be focussing on stories with predictable phrases.</p>	<h3>Maths</h3> <p>We will continue to use the superb Maths No Problem resources this academic year. We will focus on Place Value and Addition and Subtraction during this first half term.</p>	<h3>Science</h3> <p>Year 1- Animals and humans. Year 2- Living things and their habitats.</p>
<h3>Art/DT</h3> <p>Year 1- Self-portraits. Year 2- DT- Making paper dolls.</p>	<h3>RE</h3> <p>Year 1- Who is Jesus? Year 2- What is important for Jewish people?</p>	<h3>Geography</h3> <p>(Year 2) Our local area</p>
<h3>PSHE</h3> <p>Establishing class routines and expectations Year 1- Beginning and belonging Year 2- Drugs and Medicines</p>	<h3>History</h3> <p>(Year 1) Events beyond living memory. My family tree.</p>	<h3>PE</h3> <p>Indoor PE- Dance (Friendship) Outdoor PE- Games</p>

How can I help my child at home?

Please ensure you read with your child as much as you possibly can. Discussing the characters, setting and events and talking about what is happening in the text is sometimes even more important than the actual decoding of the words itself! If any parents would like to come in and read with children in school please let your child's class teacher know. Please remember to make a note of any reading you do at home in your child's reading record. Even if it is not their school reading book it is great to know