

WELCOME TO YEAR 1

Mrs Bridden, Mrs Marles, Miss Canty and Mrs Lannin would like to offer you a very warm welcome. We hope you find this leaflet useful and welcome your questions at any time throughout the year. We hope we have included the most important aspects of your child's day and will be delighted to explain more about any aspect of classroom life.

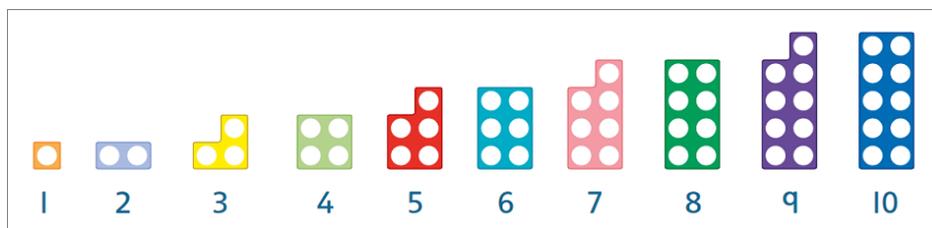


ENGLISH

English is taught for at least an hour and a half every day. The children will be given access to a wide range of texts and they will be taught reading and writing skills. They will be reading and writing every day as a class, in groups, in pairs and by themselves. We would appreciate your support in ensuring that the children practise their reading and spelling skills at home with you on a regular basis.

MATHS

Maths also takes place daily for at least an hour. Children are encouraged to work in pairs and groups as well as individually. This encourages them to discuss how they are solving their problems. In maths lessons, the children will get the opportunity to use a variety of resources, including Numicon, number lines and tens frames.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE will take place on a **Tuesday** and **Wednesday** for both classes. In addition to this, your child will have an opportunity for outside play in the afternoons.

PE KIT:

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the children will come to school in P.E. kits and will wear their PE kit all day. Children are asked to wear navy/black/grey tracksuit bottoms or leggings. They will need to wear their white T-shirt or polo shirt with

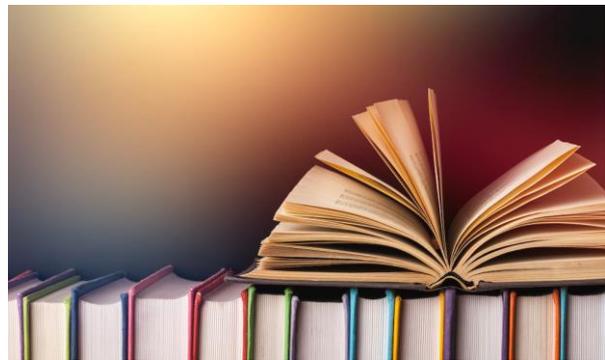
school sweatshirt over the top and their trainers. If children cannot tie laces then perhaps velcro fastenings could be considered. Jewellery must not be worn. If any jewellery is present, the children will have to remove it themselves. If possible, on a PE day, it would be helpful if children came to school without any jewellery on.

WILD TRIBE

Every Wednesday morning, Miss Canty and Mrs Bridden have time out of class to plan for the following week; during this time the children partake in PE with Miss Kee and Wild Tribe with Mrs Kandes. Wild Tribe is an exciting part of the Stowford Curriculum where your child gets to learn a range of practical outdoor skills, such as knot-tying, fire making and den building. Please ensure that your child brings a warm, waterproof coat and wellies into school as Wild Tribe is an all-weather activity. Children will need to wear trousers to keep legs covered for fire safety. Wellies can be stored in school in our welly shed and any waterproof clothing can be kept on your child's peg in a named bag to use for Wild Tribe - please ensure any clothing brought into school is clearly named.

READING

Please encourage your child to read at home as often as possible. This year we are encouraging the children to read a book 3 times before changing it. This is so that your child has the time to decode words and develop fluency and comprehension. By the third read, your child should be reading the book easily and with little help from you. They should also be able to talk confidently about the events in the book and read with expression. Please record in your home school diary if your child has read the book once, twice, or is ready to change the book. In year 1 the children can change their book on any day of the week (there are no specific book changing days).



HOMEWORK

Homework is set every Wednesday to be returned for the following Monday. This year, we will be giving out homework electronically on Class Dojo. If you are not connected to our Class Dojo page yet please give your email address to your teacher. Feedback for homework will be given via Class Dojo. Our aim is for the children to be able to do this homework independently. If you could help with reading the instructions for them and ensuring they stick to the timings given (ie not spending too long on it) that would be most helpful.

Whilst we appreciate your support, Maths is taught in a very systematic and specific way so if your child doesn't understand the homework, please avoid sharing

them an alternative way as this can cause confusion. Just let us know so we can help.

Please ask us if you ever have any questions about the homework. Talk for 'Big Writing' will also be sent home on a Wednesday, in preparation for their 'Big Writing' on Thursday. Big Writing is a piece of independent writing the children will do every Thursday. They build towards it across the week and talking about it with you on a Wednesday night will really help boost their confidence in writing their ideas down.



SPELLINGS

Once the children have settled into year 1, they will receive a few spellings to learn each week. They will be tested on a Friday and a new set of spellings will be given out on the same day. These spellings feature a spelling pattern for the week and some tricky words that cannot be sounded out. Please try to avoid practising the spellings in the spelling book as over the year this gets very full.

GOLDEN TIME

Every Friday the children will have golden time to celebrate good behaviour over the week. The children can bring in a toy to play with in golden time. We ask that the children do not bring in a toy that needs batteries or is electronic, is particularly expensive, or is a pretend weapon (guns, swords etc). Golden time is a great opportunity to develop sharing and social skills as well as an exciting reward for the children. Please ask your child (or us) about golden time, Dojo Points, cups and crystals... all part of our positive managing behaviour policy!

HOME TIME AND ABSENCE

If your child is being picked up by different adult than normal, please let us know by ringing the office or writing this in your child's home school diary.

Please contact school on the first day of your child's absence. A follow up letter should then be sent in when your child returns to school which will be filed with the registration details.

Opportunities to see the teacher:

We will contact you in due course about more formal meetings regarding your child's progress. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us via Class Dojo if you have any questions or concerns. If you need to pass on a message please note these in your child's home school diary as these are read every day.