

WELCOME TO YEAR 1

Mrs Bridden, Mrs Harvey, Mrs Tickner 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 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 **Monday** and **Wednesday** for both classes. In addition to this, your child will have an opportunity for outside play in the afternoons.

PE KIT:

On Mondays 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

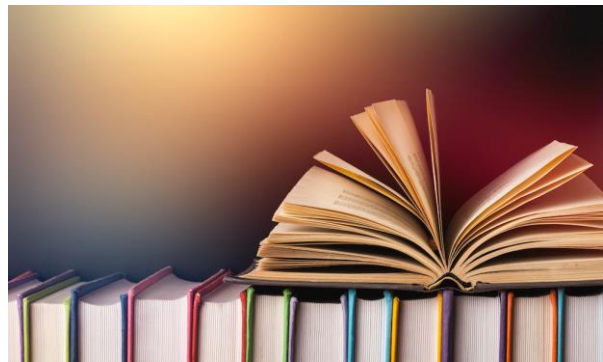
school sweatshirt over the top and their trainers. If children cannot tie laces then perhaps Velcro fastenings are advised. Jewellery must not be worn. If any jewellery is present, the children will have to remove it themselves. If possible, on a PE day, it would be helpful if children came to school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

WILD TRIBE

Every Wednesday morning, Mrs Tickner 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

This year we have implemented a new phonics scheme called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. As part of this new scheme we are making some changes to the way that we send reading books home. Your child will take a 'Sharing Book' home on Mondays. The 'Sharing Book' will be indicated in your child's reading diary with a star. This book is for your child to explore with a grown-up, they do not have to read this book to you. They can look at pictures and explore the story to foster a love of reading and stories. On a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday your child will receive their 'Reading Practise Book'. Your child will be able to read this book independently. Your child will already have read this book with an adult three times at school so they should be confident in reading this book to you. This book will be matched to your child's phonics ability. All reading books, the 'Sharing Book' and the 'Reading Practise Book', need to be returned on Mondays. If you would like more information about our new phonics scheme please feel free to send us a message on class dojo or visit <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>.



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 or Friday. Big Writing is a piece of independent writing the children will do every Thursday or Friday. 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.

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 note that Class Dojo messages that are sent in school time may not be seen until the end of the school day.

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 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 this in your child's home school diary as these are read every day.