

Elf Owls
Autumn Term newsletter



Welcome back everyone! We have had a brilliant start to the new school year and the children have all settled in well.

Year 1 is a lot more demanding on focus, concentration, independence and skills! The children may come home tired for the first half term. So far they have risen to the challenges and we have already demonstrated perseverance and enthusiasm to be excellent learners.

Our first topic - Marvellous Me!



This half term we will spend some time learning about ourselves. We will find out about our senses and how they help us explore the world around us and also what makes us who we are - similarities and differences and what makes us unique.

Writing

We will try to cover two important objectives this half term. We will be writing labels and also learning to write a list using our Talk for Writing approach.

The main focus for our writing skills is writing sentences with capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.

Reading

We will start our guided reading story where we will read as a class and practise different reading skills across the week. During this time we practise blending and decoding words using phonics, literal retrieval from the text and inference about the text. Groups of children will also

be heard read to further focus on these skills.

Children will also be heard read individually at least once a week. It is really important that children read at home and practise their sounds and words.

Phonics

Children have daily phonics where we learn new sounds and how to say, write, blend for reading and segment for spelling.

The weekly spelling lists we send home will be linked to the sounds we will be learning/revising in phonics plus children will have up to 5 common exception words to learn to read and spell. There are 45 common exception words which need to be learned by the end of year 1 (see attached sheet).

Maths

Our first unit of learning in maths is counting, ordering and comparing numbers to 10. We also make sure we are secure in number bonds to 10 and addition and subtraction within 10. We will be applying this learning in problem solving and investigative contexts.

PE

We are very lucky to have two PE specialists this term in year 1. We will have dance with Miss Sutherland on a Wednesday and gymnastics with Mark on a Thursday.

Children will need black shorts and a white or red PE t-shirt in school. PE pumps or trainers are also useful to have in case we can fit in another PE session which may be outside.

It is a good idea to bring your child's PE kit on a Monday and leave it until Friday so they always have it in school.

Homework

You will have received a homework book and homework sheet. These have some key



★ tasks we suggest **must** be done with your child as they support them in their key skills in school.

★ Also on the sheet will be a range of different activities linked to our topic and **these are optional**.

★ Please feel free to do as many or as few as you like. Some children and parents are keen to carry on their learning at home and these are just to give you a few ideas of how you can do this. House points will be given if children bring their homework into share but children do not have to share it.

★ The book is for you to practise spellings, numbers and stick photos in of homework.

★ It is a working book for children to record home learning in but will not be marked.

★ **Snack**

★ Please make sure you only send your child with a fresh or a dried fruit snack for snack time. Children in year 1 do still get a fruit snack at school too. We have snack at morning playtime.

★ **Meet the teachers!**

★ I think we have both had the chance to meet many of you already but we are holding a brief meeting for all parents on Wednesday 19th September between 3.15 and 3.45pm. This is a chance for us to go through new routines, explain our focus for learning this year and to share with you expectations for learning in year 1. It is also a good chance for you to ask any questions you have that have arisen so far.

★ We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

★ If you have any questions or queries please feel free to call in or ring.

★ Kind Regards,

★ Mrs. Harpham and Mrs. Farmery

