

Elf Owls

Autumn Term Newsletter



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

At the start of Year 1 your child will transition from learning through play, to more structured days of learning. Rainbow Challenges are completed independently by the children, during choosing time to consolidate their skills in most areas of the curriculum. So far they have all risen to the challenge and have thoroughly enjoyed the rainbow challenges as well as the more structured parts of their school day.

Our first topic - Space

This half term we will spend some time learning about space. We will find out about our planet and explore the world around us. We will be researching about the first moon landing and facts about space.

Writing

We will cover two important objectives this half term. We will be writing labels as well as 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. We will also have daily handwriting sessions at the start of each day. Your child will learn precursive handwriting, which will lead to cursive before the end of the school year.

Reading

We will start our Guided Reading where we will read in groups 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.

Children will also be heard reading individually at least once a week. It is highly 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 and blend for reading and segment for spelling.

The weekly spelling lists we send home will be linked to the sounds taught and include five 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, then to 20. 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

On a Wednesday afternoon they will have PE with Mr Wright, and Yoga with myself on a Thursday afternoon. Children will need black shorts and a 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 and Water Bottles

Please make sure you only send your child with a fresh or a dried fruit (healthy) snack for snack time. Children in Year One do still get a fruit snack at school too. We have snack just before morning playtime.

Children need to now bring in their own labelled water bottle each day. They can refill it within the school day but we please ask for it to be filled with water, not juice when they come to school.

Lastly, I would like to inform you that on a Wednesday afternoon Mrs Collins will be teaching Elf Owls for one hour (followed by Mr Wright).

Another reminder that the school is now a nut-free school and we ask that you check labels of any premade food your child brings to school.

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

Kind Regards,

Miss Denison