



Dear Parents/Carers,

Autumn Term 2019

Welcome to Class 1 to those who are new to us in Reception and welcome back to our returning Year Ones. We have been very impressed by how well everyone has settled in to the classroom already and we are looking forward to a fabulous year ahead. We wanted to take the opportunity to give you a little more information about our class and about the things that will be happening this term.

Our topic for Year One this term will be 'Space'. Within this topic, alongside English and Maths, we will be learning about materials in Science; the moon landing, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin in History; moon buggies in Design and Technology and our Religious Education area of learning will be stories and believing. We will be using the stimulus of Vincent van Gogh's 'Starry Night' to inspire our work in art. We will be following the Leap into Life programme for PE with FunFit for additional support. The children will also be exploring programming in computing and will be offered many opportunities to join in with singing activities throughout the term.

Children in Foundation will be able to share the experiences with the children in Year One but will also be following their own curriculum which is determined by them and their interests. We are also hoping to arrange a visit from the Space Dome to support our learning within our space topic, more details to follow soon!

It is usual for the children in Class One to be outside on a daily basis and we do PE on several days each week, therefore PE kits, wellies and a warm raincoat are essentials at school **every day**. We cannot emphasise enough how much we love labelled items of clothing and belongings! Please do put your child's name on everything! We provide cups and water in Class One so water bottles are not necessary.

We are very grateful for your fantastic support in encouraging your child to be independent, bringing themselves and their belongings into the classroom in the morning and putting their things away by themselves before sitting on the rug for registration. Whilst encouraging independence for your child we also value communication with parents so, of course, feel free to seek out a member of Class One staff to pass on any important messages or information. For more in-depth conversations with staff, 3 o'clock (or pick-up time) is usually preferable or we are very happy to arrange meetings for a more convenient time.

As regards more general school information, there is play equipment available for all children to use at playtimes. A key fob can be purchased from the school office for 50p which can then be exchanged for a piece of play equipment. The key fob is returned to the child when the equipment is handed back during, or at the end of, playtime.

Thank you to all the parents/carers/siblings who have already begun to write in the Reading Records (which are in all the children's book bags with their reading books) to show that they have listened to reading and shared books at home. Reading at home is **so** important and makes such a difference to children's progress and learning at school, we would really appreciate your support with this.

Just so you are aware of how Class 1 is staffed, Mrs Griffin teaches on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday mornings. On Wednesday afternoons Mrs Nancekivell will be working with Class 1. Mrs May teaches on Thursdays and Fridays and Mrs Palmer is the Teaching Assistant in Class 1 all week.

In case there is any information that we have omitted from this letter (!) please do come and see us if you have any further questions or queries.

We look forward to working with you and your children,

Yours sincerely,

Stella Griffin
Gill May
Julie Palmer