

September 2024

Dear Year 1 Parents ,

Welcome to Owl Class, we are so excited for the year ahead!

### **P.E**

In order to help the transition run smoothly, here are a few details which you may find useful.

P.E will be on Mondays and Fridays. During the second part of the Autumn term P.E. lessons will be encompassed in our forest school sessions on a Tuesday morning- more details will follow.

Please ensure that the correct kit (a white PE t-shirt and dark green shorts or plain, dark jogging bottoms, plimsolls and ideally a pair of trainers for outside activities) is in school on these days, particularly if items have been taken home following an after-school club. Please ensure that all uniform/ kit is named - it is very difficult to return lost property to its rightful owner, or locate a mysterious missing item, if it is unnamed.

This also applies to water bottles - you would be amazed at how many children have the same ones!

### **Contacting us**

Home time Please let us know at drop off or via the office, if your child is being collected by somebody different. If you would like to speak to me, I am always happy to chat with you at home time so please do use this as your first point of contact if possible, however please do allow me to dismiss all of the other children first so that this process is not delayed and we can more talk freely.

If you require a lengthier conversation, we can arrange a time to meet. The class email is another way to get in touch, especially if you are not around for pick up. The class email is [owls@jordans.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:owls@jordans.bucks.sch.uk)

### **Books**

Each week the children have the opportunity to visit the to browse and choose a book to take home. Our 'library day' will be a Monday so please ensure that any library books in need of changing are in school.

We do ask that children spend around 15 minutes reading each night. Your child may choose the same book more than once, which is fine - we all love to re-read a favourite, and it is a great way to help with fluency and confidence.

To support at home; Ask your child lots of questions about the book and encourage them to make predictions. If s/he encounters an unfamiliar word, encourage him/ her to try to work it out (e.g. through blending, reading around the word, using pictures) and always stop to question new vocabulary or re-read a sentence if it does not make sense. When your child has finished a book, please confirm this by writing in the reading diary to indicate that they are ready to choose a new one. It is really helpful to know how children are getting on, so please do write a comment if you have time.

You may wish to use the following guide to support reading at home:

Day 1- read for decoding

Day 2- read again for comprehension

Day 3- read again for fluency and expression

The children will be given time to change their reading book on Monday and Thursday mornings.

### **Home learning**

As you are aware, as a school we feel that children should not be carrying out lots of unnecessary work at home as this can impact family life, so we try to limit regular homework to reading, spelling and number practise. Very occasionally we may send home specific activities which are designed to reinforce and/ or support the work we are carrying out in school. This will be uploaded onto Google classroom. This will usually consist of a phonic workbook and another task.

### **Spelling**

The Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words (see page below) are words which are commonly used, but do not follow the usual spelling patterns, so therefore need to be read and spelt from memory, rather than through blending and segmenting. Children are expected to be able to read and spell these words correctly (if used in a piece of independent writing) by the end of Year 1.

We will be focussing on a selection of these words each week in school and revisiting them during the year. In addition, we will be recapping and consolidating the phonics

learning that happens in the Summer term of Reception, before moving onto phase 4 and 5 which moves on to alternative sounds for digraphs and trigraphs as well as sound families.

## Year 1

a	his	push	was
are	house	put	we
ask	I	said	were
be	is	says	where
by	love	school	you
come	me	she	your
do	my	so	
friend	no	some	
full	of	the	
go	once	there	
has	one	they	
he	our	to	
here	pull	today	

## Maths

Each time we start studying a new maths area we will send out a maths newsletter to help you support your child's learning, please so ask if you have any further questions about the information it contains. It will also be on our class page on the website for you to access. For the first half of term, the children would really benefit from working on speedy recall of number bonds up to and including 10, counting forwards and backwards to 20.

Thank you so much for your support,

Miss Kara and the Year 1 team