

Homework

We encourage all children to read to you **every day** at home, and further guidance on this will follow in a separate letter. We cannot stress enough the importance of regular reading at home. It has a huge impact on progress and confidence, providing opportunities for your child to practise the skills they've learned in school. Ten minutes a day makes such a difference! We welcome the positive comments you make in the reading record and appreciate the time you take to listen to your child.

Children will be given spelling homework every Monday, to be returned on the following Monday. Please practise spellings daily if possible—little and often is the best way to learn.

Expectations in Year 1

Children throughout the school are encouraged at all times to be polite, kind and hard working. We want the children to do the best they can and feel a sense of pride and achievement in everything they do. We encourage teamwork and a respect for all other members of 'Team St Minver'. We remind the children daily of our school motto, 'Be Brave, Be Kind, Belong'.

The way in which we learn and our motivation to do so remains hugely important. We focus on these characteristics using our 'Lenny Lion's Learning Zoo'. Each characteristic has an animal associated with it and so the children strive to become Proud Peacocks, Persevering Parrots, Go for It Gorillas, Creative Chameleons, Choosing Chimps and Slinky Linky Snakes. These characters are introduced to the children in Class R and our aim is to build on the good habits established last year.

Class rewards

House points and stickers are given to individuals as reward for excellent behaviour, attitudes and work. A filled sticker chart means the children choose a small gift from our prize box. Each week two children will be selected to be the stars of the week, and their achievements will be shared in our weekly celebration assemblies.

We look forward to teaching your children this year, and hope that they feel happy and confident about moving up from Reception to Year 1. This can be a daunting prospect for some children, and we've grown to expect a fair amount of tears during the first few days of term! This year, of course, it is more daunting than usual, as the children have missed part of their EYFS year. If your child is worried or reluctant to come to school this week, be assured that it rarely lasts for long. Please do let us know if your child has any particular concerns; a problem shared is a problem halved!

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cray and Mrs Couch



Year 1 Class Booklet—Autumn Term

Teachers: Mrs Cray and Mrs
Couch

Teaching Assistant: Mrs Luke



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 1! We are really excited to be teaching your children this year. We have written this newsletter to keep you up to date with what your child will be learning during the Autumn Term (although we are sure some things will change as we go along). During the first week back at school we will focus on reconnecting, settling in and establishing new routines before starting our main topic for the term, 'Animals are Amazing!' This is a really interesting topic which we are sure the children will enjoy.

Mrs Couch will teach the class every Monday, and Mrs Cray will teach the class from Tuesday to Friday each week. Mrs Luke is our full time teaching assistant, and we will also have Mr Rickard and Mrs Mably lending a hand!

English

We are introducing a new phonics and reading programme this term, which is called 'Little Wandle for Letters and Sounds'. The children will have a daily phonics lesson and three weekly reading sessions to support their learning. More information will follow in a separate letter.

During the term we will be reading and sharing a variety of stories and poems, and we will base our writing activities around these. The children will learn how to write simple sentences with capital letters and full stops. They will progress to writing simple, three-sentence stories, then they will have a go at writing a set of instructions and finally, a new verse for a familiar poem. After half term they will write simple diaries to record changes in the weather, along with some festive writing activities—it won't be long until Christmas!

We will also be covering the following:-

- * Handwriting practice
- * Weekly spellings which are sent home to reinforce what is being taught in school.
- * Regular library visits to choose a new library book.

Maths

In maths we begin with place value, and will cover sorting, counting forwards and backwards, reading and writing numbers, one more and one less and comparing and ordering objects and numbers. We progress to addition and subtraction, building on the children's prior knowledge. We learn new strategies to add and take away, and develop an understanding of the relationship between addition and subtraction. The children will then look at shape, learning to recognise and name both 2d and 3d shapes. At the end of the term, we go back to place value, working with larger numbers. The children will also be following the 'Number Sense' teaching programme which they were introduced to in Year R. This works on building fluency with addition and subtraction facts.

Computing

This term we will continue to build our knowledge of how to stay safe online. We will be using the iPads to create a fact file about ourselves and the children will learn how to keep their personal information safe online. We will also be using the coding programme 'Espresso' to create our own game.

Science

This term our topic is science-based and covers the National Curriculum programme of study entitled 'Animals, including humans'. The children will learn to classify animals into different groups: mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish. They will learn about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, and will describe and compare the structure of common animals. They will also learn about humans as animals and will identify, name, draw and label body parts as well as associating body parts with the senses.

RE

In RE, we will be learning about Christianity. We will be learning about what Christians believe God is like. We will be looking at the idea that Christians believe in God and how they look to the bible and its teachings as a key way of finding out what Christians think God is like. We will be looking at stories and parables from the Bible. We will be discussing, thinking and questioning the stories and whether we can learn anything from the stories and exploring different ideas. We will explore the ideas in depth that God is loving and forgiving and what forgiveness means.

History

In history, we learn about a significant person, and will look at the life and work of Vincent Van Gogh. The children will look at his many self-portraits and will produce one of their own, based on Van Gogh's work.

Art

In Art we will be developing a range of art techniques. We will be exploring different painting techniques and printing. We will also be looking at the works of Van Gogh and creating our very own self portraits.

Geography

Later this term we will study the weather, learning about weather patterns and how they affect us. We will look at hot and cold areas of the world and their location in relation to the equator and the north and south poles.

Music

In music this term we will be learning different songs and we will begin to think about our voice as an instrument. We look at the importance of why we warm up our voices, having good posture and controlling our breathing. We will also use percussion instruments to create our own piece of music.

PSHE (Personal Social and Health Education)

Each week the children will have PSHE lessons based on the Jigsaw Framework. During this time the children will play lots of different games which encourage them to get along with each other and follow the class and school rules and encourage them to be thoughtful, independent and mindful about their learning. We begin by looking at the topic 'Being Me in My World'. During this unit we will be getting to know each other by celebrating our achievements and our hopes for year1. We will explore our rights and responsibilities as learners and also consider rewards and consequences. Together we will create our own learning charter which we will be referring to through out the school year.

PE

This term the children will have PE lessons every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Please note that the children should come to school dressed in their PE kits on these days. As the chil-