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Together we care, inspire
and achieve excellence

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Dear Parents

Welcome to Vivaldi Class old and new parents. It has been lovely to meet you and to get to know your children, during the transition days. We are looking forward to sharing the wonderful scrapbooks that you made during the summer.

During the first 3 weeks we will be ensuring that all new children are settling in well and happy to be left and using the children's learning time to observe and get to know all the children, including their likes and dislikes. We will also be identifying the next steps in their learning.

As you know from your children's previous settings, the children in the foundation stage have a Learning Journal to show their learning throughout their time with us. If you have any WOW moments that you would like to share, please fill in the attached form and send back to school, as your contributions to your child's learning journey are very important.

We will then be working on the topic of 'One step beyond.' We will be exploring this topic through different picture books and non-fiction books. Reception children will cover the topic as for year 1, but at their own level.

We will also use the children's interests to support their learning. We are very excited about the visiting planetarium in the 2nd week of term for the children.

Each week I will send a weekly overview of what the children will be learning, so that you can support your child at home. Please use the home/ school diary to share any information, concerns or things that you have been doing at home linked to our topic.

There will be a 'Come and share' session when the children are settled into the routine of the school, to enable you to share your child's learning in an informal atmosphere. This will also give you the opportunity to share their learning journeys and discuss what they have been learning. This will normally be on a Friday afternoon at the end of the half term. The first 'Come and Share' **will be Friday 16th November at 2pm – 2.30. This will give you a further opportunity to look at your child's learning journey and write comments against their learning.**



Reception children will have an opportunity for 'Show and tell' when they are focus children. For Year 1 there will be a timetable arranged so that all children have the opportunity to take part. Further information to follow.

Phonics will follow Letters and Sounds, with Phase 1 being embedded across the curriculum for all the children and Phase 2 being taught daily from Week 4 for reception children.

Year 1 children are taught with the rest of year 1 at a level appropriate for their learning. All Y1 children will receive spelling home learning weekly on a Friday, where there will be example words to illustrate a spelling rule which has been taught. At times, they will have a test the following Friday from a list of unfamiliar words which follow the same rule. At other times, there will be lists of words to learn which do not follow a rule and will be tested on those exact words the following Friday. You will always receive feedback on any test to see how they have done.

Year 1 children English

We will be using stories linked to our topic, looking at stories set in familiar places, labels, lists and caption, instructions, recounts. In poetry we will look at pattern, rhyme and description.

Maths

We will be learning about position, direction, ordinal numbers, patterns, comparing numbers, addition and subtraction, solving problems, comparing, making the same, estimating, ordering, one more and one less, doubling and halving, odd and even numbers and geometry – names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

Topic

Science, History and Geography will be taught through our topic. (YR –Understanding the World)
In Science we will be learning about light and forces. We will learn about the changing seasons. We will learn about how we have changed and what we need to stay healthy, linked to food and exercise. In Geography we will be learning how to use maps and atlases and where we have been over the holidays and how it differs from where we live. In history we will be learning about Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake.

DT / Art (YR - Expressive Art and Design)

We will be learning about using a range of materials to design and create. We will use different media and materials to explore different techniques. These will include paint, crayons, pencils, charcoal and sculpture.

Computing

We will be starting with e-safety then creating and using algorithms.

Religious Education

We will be learning about

- Belonging to a group, including a religious community.
- Celebrations including Purim and Harvest.
- Light as a symbol – Advent, Christingle and Hannakuh

PSHE

The theme this term is relationships and the children will be taught in their year group. Mrs. Mihajlovic will be teaching the Y1s and I will teach the reception children. We will be using resources from SCARF who you may remember visited us with the Life Bus last term.

French

This will be taught to Y1 children. They will work on greetings and expressing feelings. They will learn numbers to ten and colours. They will also be able to name parts of the body and items of clothing.

Music

The Y1 children will be creating their own rhythms once they have followed and repeated simple songs. Music for reception children will be taught by Mrs Winfield.

Both Reception and Year 1 children will access independent learning through our continuous provision which will be linked to the children's needs and interests to promote their independent learning and skills.

Any help you can give your child to find out about these topics would be most appreciated.

PE

PE will be on a Wednesday morning and will be taught by Matt Ogilvie. The Y1 and reception children will have separate lessons. **Please ensure that any earrings or other jewellery are removed and hair is tied back.**

Home Learning

Reading is always a real strength in our children but this is only possible if they are heard daily at home. Guidance for this will be stuck in the home school diary to help focus their reading. Comments you make about their reading in your child's home school diary should relate to their fluency but could also focus on their comprehension of what was read and their target. As a result, I do not expect the children to change their book each day in order to spend enough time on each book to show real fluency and understanding. It is also useful to know what else your child is reading, whether as an independent read or a bedtime story read to them, you could record these in the diary too.

Year 1 children:

Spellings will be sent home weekly and checked the next week. Reading is expected to be undertaken every day. Your child will keep their log in to access the Mathletics site on line. Mathletics tasks will be set on a Friday for the following Friday. Please support your child on this task and comment on their performance in the home school diary, while signing the task sticker to show that it has been completed.

Reception children

Homework will mainly be reading or phonics games or a skill to consolidate what we have been learning in class. Your child will be given a mathletics login and the process will be explained at our meeting.

Home Learning tasks: A list of home learning tasks linked to our class learning will be sent home soon. The children do not have to complete the tasks. They can do as many or as few as they wish. Please ensure that the standard produced is of their best and child led rather than adult led. Some Home learning will be celebrated at Sharing Assemblies and will always be recognised through notes from me.

All children will take part in Talk Talk (Show and Tell) once or twice a term and have the opportunity to take our class bear for the weekend and write in his diary. This is an opportunity for your child to share their time with our new class bear with the class; they may illustrate their work using colour pencils. Y1 children are expected to write in the diary and reception children to work towards this. They can also choose to use it rather like a scrap book, for example adding photographs or tickets from events. Please ensure that the diary is completed with a sharp pencil, it should be dated and written in the diary provided. The diary must be returned to school as soon as the entry is completed to allow another child to take it home.

PLEASE ensure that you read every night with your child and make a note in the home / school diary

Please could we also request welly boots that can stay in school all the time for outdoor learning. If you have any spare pairs that have been outgrown, donations would be much appreciated! We have all in one suits for the children to wear. Please ensure all clothes are named (Permanent marker is ideal or sewn in labels) and that children have spares in their PE bag.

Please could you let us know if anyone different is collecting your child, (a note in the home / school diary is fine), and we are always around after school if you want a quick chat about anything.

Please could you ensure that your child has sun cream on and a sun hat in school while the weather is warm, along with a named water bottle.

Our library day is a **Thursday** [but please return books on a **Wednesday** if possible], children will be able to borrow a book and return it the following week.

There will be information meetings for new parents regarding setting up and using Tapestry (online learning journey) and how we teach phonics and reading.

Further information regarding any trips or visits will follow. I think this is quite enough information for now!

Kind regards

Amanda Barnes