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Head Teacher: Miss Sarah Gray
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Dear Families of Year 1,

Welcome back to the Summer term! I hope that you have all had a wonderful Easter break and are ready for the last term in year 1. This year has really flown by so far and the children really seem to have grown up and made huge progress.

In Literacy this term, we will be securing the skills the children have been learning so far this year. We will focus on writing complete sentences and building writing stamina. We have already begun looking at using conjunctions in our writing to join two sentences and will continue to practise this skill as well as editing our own work for mistakes and adding exclamation and question marks. Over the next term, we will look at different writing genres such as poetry, letter writing and explanation texts.

Leading up to the Phonics Screening test in June, our main focus in discreet phonics and reading sessions will be on practising all of the sounds taught so far, decoding these sounds within real and nonsense words. I am now pleased to see that many children are very familiar with the sounds and are now not only decoding longer words but also using them in their own writing. Please support your child at home by reading with them daily and encouraging them to sound out unfamiliar words and recognising the digraphs (2 letters which make one sound eg ay) and trigraphs (3 letters which make one sound, eg igh). In class, we call these 'special friends'.

In Maths so far in year 1, we have been looking mainly at addition and subtraction using numbers up to 20. We will continue to practise these skills using the manipulatives with an emphasis on spotting patterns and making links. During the summer term, we will be moving on to counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and later multiplication and division word problems. We will have short 'Mastering Number' sessions to practise basic skills such as doubling, halving, odds and evens and part/whole models.

PE KITS

PE will now be on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons. The children will need to arrive in school in their FULL PE kit.





HOMEWORK

Please continue to complete the homework on Google Classroom and hand it in so that I can see you have completed it or hand in the blue book. The tasks should not take long but give you a good idea of what your child is learning at school and also what they may be struggling with.

The children will continue to bring a banded reading book home on a Friday to share with you and will keep these until the following Friday when they will choose a new one. Please ensure that children **bring back the books**.

The choice book they bring home is to encourage reading for pleasure and may not be one they can read independently, so please take time to share this story with them and stop to ask questions and enjoy spending time reading together. The banded books are ones which your child should be able to sound out and read more independently. Please allow them to use their knowledge of phonics to read the book and also practise high frequency words. If you notice that your child is repeatedly unable to read some of the more common high frequency words, maybe keep a list on the fridge to practise. The key to success with making progress with reading is little and often! 10 minutes a day is enough if your child is struggling to concentrate.

CLASS NOTICES

- Class trip to Waddesdon Manor will be on Thursday 18th June. The trip will be linked to both our history and science learning. More details to follow soon.
- Phonics screening week will be the week beginning 8th June.
- Our class sharing assembly will be Thursday 7th May.

A REMINDER THAT YOU CAN COME AND SEE US ANY TIME...

If you have any questions or worries about your child please *do* come and see me at the end of the day or send me an email on our class email:

year1@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Many thanks for your continued support,
Best wishes,

Mrs Zimet

