



Academy Status

Head Teacher: Mrs K. Pope, B.Ed. (Hons)

Welcome to Year 1 Bumble Bee class!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a restful summer break. It has been wonderful hearing all about your children's holiday adventures and seeing their beaming smiles in the mornings this week. We have had a fantastic first few days in year 1 and we are so proud and impressed how well the children have settled into their new class.

This week the children have enjoyed exploring their new learning environment and finding out about what they will be learning about in year 1 this term. We are looking forward to an exciting first term and wonderful year with your children.

What does learning look like in Year One?

During the Autumn term, the children's learning structure is still very similar to that of Reception. Each day children will be taught phonics, maths and writing in the morning and the afternoons will vary each day. During lesson time children will either work in small groups with an adult or will have the opportunity to take part in "Discovery time" where the children will have the opportunity to take part in child led learning through continuous provision. This structure supports children to become more independent in their learning as well as encouraging children to complete lesson activities at the same time in preparation for later on in the year.

Reading and homework

Books will be changed once a week. Your child will take home a phonics phased book which matches their independent reading level as well as a separate 'sharing book', which you can read together with your child. The children also visit our school library every week, so they will get an opportunity to select a book of their choice to read at home. When your child has read their phonic phased reading book to you at home, please ensure you write the title of the book and a comment in the reading diary. If you don't write the title with a tick or comment, we will assume that your child hasn't read the book and you require more time. Please remember to continue to read with your child at least four times a week. This supports their reading fluency, accuracy and confidence. You will receive further information about how you can support your child with reading at home over the next few weeks. You can also access Oxford Reading Buddy, here you will also find a variety of books for your child to read. Please use the login details that are stuck into the front of your child's reading log.



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Numbots

Please also encourage your child to practise their number skills at least three times per week using the NumBots app. It is very helpful in improving their number sense and mental maths skills. The children love to be awarded with their certificates on a Friday during services and see how well they are progressing. Your child's login details will also be stuck in the front of their new reading record.

Phonics

Over the forthcoming weeks, year one will begin working on their phase 5 phonics. This is brand new learning for the children as they will be learning alternative spellings for sounds. These will be sent home at the end of each week along with new harder to read and spell words that the children have learnt. Please continue to practise these with your child at home so that they become fluent at recognising them when reading as well as writing them with confidence.

We will also be holding a Phonics meeting for parents this term to discuss the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check which takes place in the summer term. More information about this meeting will follow over the forthcoming weeks.

P.E. kit

The children will have both their indoor and outdoor P.E. lessons on a Tuesday afternoon this term. Please ensure your child has a named PE kit (with both shorts, jogging bottoms and sweatshirt) in school every day. PE kits should remain in school throughout the term and be taken home at the end of every half term for a freshen up. Therefore, if your child is taking part in an afterschool sports club this term, please ensure they bring their PE kit back into school the following day.

Name labelling reminders

Please check your child's uniform and belongings are clearly labelled before sending things into school. It is very helpful for the children's independence and organisational skills if they can recognise their possessions clearly.

If you have any questions or queries throughout the year, please don't hesitate to contact us using the school office email addresses.

We are very much looking forward to an exciting year with your children.

Best wishes, Mrs Smart and Mrs Knight