

Welcome back!

We hope that you all had a lovely Summer break. The KS1 team are looking forward to another busy but exciting term at school. There have been some changes within the KS1 staff so here is another reminder of our team.

Year 1 - Miss Ryder, Miss Lile, Miss Barsby and Mrs Jennings. Mrs Bailey will teach Year 1 on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

Year 2 - Mrs Burland, Mrs Burke and Mrs Gath-Walker. Mrs Bailey will teach Year 2 on Fridays.

The School Day:

A reminder that school opens at 8.50am and lessons start promptly at 9am. Please ensure that your child is on time as their early morning activities are part of the curriculum and it is an important time for settling all children into school.

As the start of the day is a very busy time, we ask that you **allow your child / children to enter the school building on their own.**

Your child's class teacher and class TAs will meet and greet the children as they come into school as part of their transition.

Members of the KS1 team will be available at the gates should you have any urgent messages to pass onto any members of staff. Alternatively, you could contact the school office if you would like to arrange a telephone conversation or appointment with your child's class teacher. You can also talk to staff at the end of the day, when there is more time to chat.

Reading:

Your child will be bringing their reading book and diary home this week. Please ensure that your child reads and discusses their book at least 5 times a week. This can be a school reading book but should also extend to a range of texts to read for pleasure.

It is important that any reading is recorded in their reading diary. In KS1 we know how important reading is; studies have shown that daily reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance.

Reading Café

We have so many lovely books in school and not enough time to share them all. Our reading cafes aim to provide a welcoming and informal place to come and share reading with your child.

They are an opportunity for you to visit our class reading areas to share books with your children. They could read to you or vice versa. You might find a book that you would like to borrow to read at home.

There will also be some fun craft activities and reading challenges for you to enjoy together. It's a free café; we will provide drinks, refreshments.....AND BOOKS!!!



Homework:

Spellings

The children will have a weekly spelling test on words and rules that they have been learning and practicing daily. **Please** help your child to learn their spellings at home.

Abacus

Children will continue to be allocated maths tasks on Abacus linked to their learning - this will also help them to practice their mental arithmetic.

Please see your child's reading diary for their log in. In Year 2, we also use Times Tables Rockstars to support our learning.

Homework Challenges

The new challenges will be sent home this week...completing the tasks will help your child to consolidate their learning through a range of enjoyable and educational activities.

Curriculum:

This half term we will be learning about Journeys, inspired by these stories:



If your child has any resources that relate to these themes and they would like to bring them into school, we would love to share them in class.

Our topic web is on the school website and includes all the information about each curriculum subject and the activities that we will cover.

Outdoor activities and PE:

Year 1 will have Forest Schools every Friday afternoon until half term. Please remember to send your child with clothing for every weather eventuality - waterproofs, layers and wellies. We will be outside in all weather.

Year 1 and 2 will have PE with Sporting Influence on a Thursday afternoon in addition to another PE session during the week.

On a Thursday afternoon we will be outdoors as much as possible (depending on the weather) so please make sure children have an indoor and outdoor PE kit every week with suitable supportive footwear!

Absence from school.

If your child is unable to attend school, please let us know as soon as possible. It is very important that your child's attendance does not fall below 96%. There is evidence that progress is slowed when attendance is inconsistent.

If your child is going to be absent from school for any length of time, please let school know so that their teacher can arrange to send work home.

Marvellous Me:

We love to send messages home to keep you updated about the great things your child does in school. Please make sure that you are signed up to Marvellous Me and don't forget to 'High 5' us.

The children really like to see that parents have received their Marvellous Me so that you can celebrate their achievements together. If you are struggling to access Marvellous Me, please contact the school office so that we can provide you with any support that you require.

Water

It is very important that children drink enough water. Moorside Primary School ensures that fresh water is available to the children throughout the day. Children are welcome to bring water in their own bottles rather than using the cups in school.

Moorside Primary is a Healthy School, so we only offer water to children throughout the day. Please do not allow your child to bring squash into school unless it is part of their packed lunch.

Children are not allowed to drink squash during the day.

NHS guidelines

Fizzy drinks, squashes and juice drinks can contain lots of added sugar and very few nutrients, so keep them to a minimum. Children should avoid them completely.

We hope that you find this new year information useful. There will be further updates and communication throughout the term, but please do not hesitate to get in touch with your class teacher if you have any concerns or you would simply like more information. We are here to help.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Yours sincerely

The KS1 Team