

## Welcome back!

We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas break. The KS1 team are looking forward to another busy but exciting term at school.

### 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.

We will continue to meet the children on the playground each morning and walk them into school.

At this time, staff are available should you have any urgent messages to pass on. 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 come into school 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.

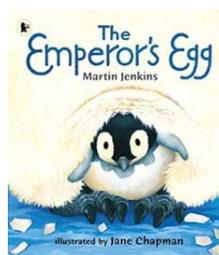
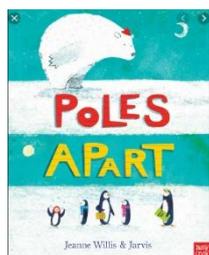
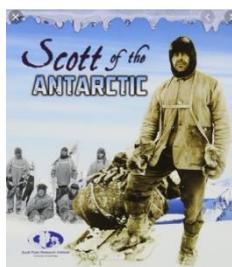
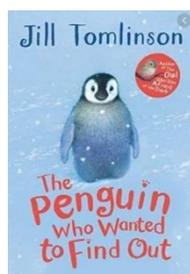
Please see your child's reading diary for their log in. In year 2, we also use Times Tables Rockstars to support our learning.

#### 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 EXPLORERS, inspired by these stories:



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

Our topic mat is on the school website and includes all the information about our main curriculum subjects and the activities that we will cover.

## Outdoor activities and PE:

Year 1 will have PE with Sporting Influence on a Wednesday and Year 2 on a Thursday afternoon.

Year 1 will have a second PE on Friday afternoon and Year 2 will have their additional PE lesson on Friday morning.

There will be times when PE lessons are outdoors (depending on the weather) so please make sure children have an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school 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.

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