



High Down Infant School

Believing | Achieving | Learning for life

Executive Headteacher
Mrs A Cowan

9th September 2020

Year 1 Term 1 Welcome to Year 1 Letter September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 1 and the new term. We hope you all managed to enjoy the summer break and are feeling slightly refreshed and ready for the new term ahead in these strange times. We are really pleased with the way that the children are settling in and we are enjoying getting to know them. We are so sorry that we are unable to invite you all to come and meet us in our classrooms this term as we would normally do in September. Instead we are sending you this letter to let you know about what the start of Year 1 will be like for your children.

In Swan's class Mrs Peprell and Mrs Ward are the class teachers and Mrs Filer is the class LSA. Mrs Outhwaite is our SMSA and will be looking after the children every lunchtime.



Mrs Peprell



Mrs Ward



Mrs Filer LSA



Mrs Outhwaite (SMSA)

Thank you to everyone who has emailed photos of their child's three special things, it is very much appreciated. The children have really enjoyed talking about their photos and looking at each other's pictures. The pictures will help support our English work for the first few weeks where we will be using a book called *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers. If you haven't sent photos yet it's not too late so please keep sending them in.

Fruit, water, lunch boxes and milk

Your child may bring in a named piece of fruit to eat during the school day and this must be placed in the class fruit box at the beginning of the day. **Please make sure you do not bring any food**



containing nuts into school. They can also bring a drink of water in a small named bottle, (**no juice or squash please**) and these are stored in boxes either in the classroom or just outside, for the children to access throughout the day. If you would like your child to have a small carton of milk every morning please email the school office for details of how to place your order.

School Uniform, Coats and Book Bags

Please ensure all items are **clearly labelled**, lost items usually return to their owners within a couple of days if named. Lost property is stored in the entrance lobby of the main Infant School building. Please can your child bring a **clearly named book bag** to school every day.

Medication

If your child needs any medication to be stored in school, please could you give it to your class teacher, with instructions on when it needs to be administered. Forms for this information can be emailed to you if you contact the office. Please ensure that all medication is in date.

Parent Helpers Unfortunately we are unable to invite parent and volunteer helpers into school at the moment but we will let you know as soon as the situation changes as we will be very keen to have our wonderful helpers back! No previous experience necessary and a range of tasks will be on offer!

The rest of this letter gives an outline of the work that will be covered by your child this term.

In **English** we will be reading and writing information texts and stories with a variety of settings. We will also be reading and writing instructions as well as having a big focus on capital letters and full stops. We carry out daily phonics and spelling practice.

Reading

The children have the same individual reading book to read at home and in school, there is a diary for you to record and comment on your child's reading at home. If your child has completed their book they will need to place their book bag in the book changing box when they arrive at school so that it can be changed. (We will try to keep reminding them to do this!). We would be really grateful if you could try and hear your child read at least three times a week, every day if possible! This is particularly important at the moment as we are unable to have volunteers in class yet to help support extra reading practice. We will also read guided reading texts in class during guided reading sessions.

Phonics

To support children's learning in phonics we will send out a work book containing weekly activities for children to complete with you at home beginning in Term 2 (more information to follow).

In **Maths** the children will be learning to:

- Count at least 20 objects and beyond reliably
- Count in ones
- Read, write and order numbers to 20 and beyond
- Count on 1 more or 1 less than any given number
- Understand and use addition and subtraction



Maths Home Learning

To support the children's learning in Maths in Term 2 we will provide log in details for your child to access some Maths games and activities on *Education City* at home (more information to follow).

In Science we will be learning about 'Ourselves'. This will involve the study of our senses and learning the names of our body parts.

In Computing we will be using programs to support Maths and English. The children will be using information around them and they will use different art programs to develop their mouse skills and use of a computer.

In Geography we will be finding out about the world around us. The children will learn the names of UK countries and the continents and oceans.

During Design and Technology sessions we will be looking at, designing, making and evaluating a range of moving pictures related to our topic.

In Art we will be using a variety of collage techniques and finding out about primary colours. We will also be looking at some of the work of Andy Warhol and using as inspiration to create our own self-portraits. This will link closely with our Science workshop.

Each week we will have two PE sessions. Swan's P.E. sessions are on Monday and Thursdays. We plan to do most of our PE sessions outside this term. Please make sure your child has Velcro trainers that fit comfortably, shorts, a t-shirt and a tracksuit so that we have suitable clothing for all weathers. **Please label all items and bags clearly with your child's name.**

In Personal, Social and Health Education we will be using *Bounce Back* materials to support children's mental and emotional health and well being.

In RE we will be following the *Discovery RE* program where we will be learning about the Creation Story and looking after our world.

Each Friday we will choose 2 children to receive a Star of the Week Certificate to celebrate good behaviour, attitude or work. Most Fridays we will be attending an on-line KS1 Celebration Assembly via Teams to hear about all the good things happening in each of our classes.

We hope this letter helps to give you some idea of what your children will be doing at school this term. There is always so much to take in at the start of a new year so please contact us to clarify things if you are unsure of anything. Please remember that we may not see or be able to respond to emails straight away. If urgent then please contact the office.

Hopefully soon you will be once again able to pop into the classroom after school if you need to talk to us.

Wanted!



Please could your child bring an empty, **named shoebox (or similar)** to school to use in one of our DT activities by **Monday 14th September** at the latest.

Best wishes and thanking you for your continued support,

The Year 1 Team

Catherine Peprell

Jenny Ward

Alison Francis

Becky Keys

Emily Arnall

