

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Welcome to Year 1!**

We are really looking forward to spending the year ahead with your child and excited about all the things we will be learning and experiencing together. We have put together some information about what is happening this coming year which we hope you'll find useful.

### **Homework**

Each week we expect children to read at home, practise their number bonds or times tables and learn their spellings. At the start of every term, your child will be sent home a project page with a choice of projects. They are expected to complete one project per term.

### **Spellings**

There are 15 spellings for the majority of children, all based around a spelling rule or pattern. These words will be taught in Basic Skills lessons throughout the following week then tested on Friday. Some children may have fewer spellings or key words to learn.

### **Reading Books**

We have new reading records in school. Reading records will be checked and signed by the teacher or teaching assistant when we read together, which is at least once a week. Please use this reading record as a record of what your child reads at home with you.

Children choose their home reading book in school; these books are sent home to be shared and enjoyed, not to test their reading ability. It is important that your child reads at home as much as possible even if only for a short time each day. Please encourage reading with expression, awareness of punctuation and discuss the subject and content of the book with your child. Children are responsible for changing their own reading books in school and keeping their reading record updated.

### **Times-Tables**

We have a school-wide system of testing number bonds and times-tables from Year 1 to Year 6. This is to encourage learning basic number facts off by heart, at speed. Children work from Bronze to Silver to Gold. To achieve each, they need to:

Bronze – answer 10 multiplication questions in order in 2 minutes

Silver – answer 10 multiplication questions in any order in 2 minutes

Gold – answer 10 division questions in any order in 2 minutes

Once Gold is achieved, children will move on to the next set of number bonds / times-table. We anticipate that most children in the year group will learn the following:

Y1 – number bonds to 10, number bonds to 20, number bonds to 100 (multiples of 10)

Y2 – x2, x10 and x5

Y3 – x3, x4, x6, x7 and x8



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www.paddoxprimary.com Mrs Le Poidevin – lepoidevin.j@welearn365.com



**Respect**  
**Encourage**  
**Achieve**  
**Care**  
**Hard work**

Y4 – x9, x11, x12

Y5 – all

Y6 – all

Number bonds/times tables tests in Year 1 will be on Fridays.

### **Assertive Mentoring**

Twice a year we hold Assertive Mentoring Parent Interviews: one in the autumn term and one in the spring term. These are 10 minute learning discussions held during the school day with your class-teacher.

In this 10 minute interview, your class-teacher will show you what they are working on and how they are progressing in their reading, writing and maths, wider topic work, and learning behaviours and attitudes. There will be time to discuss successes so far and how we can work together to progress further.

Our Autumn term Assertive Mentoring Interviews will be at the end of November and the Spring term interviews will be in the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> March. The Autumn term days are:

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November: Hawthorn and Conkers**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November: Douglas, Pear, Maple and Acorns**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November: Laurel, Sycamore and Oak**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November: Holly, Pine, Beech and Catkins**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November: Spruce, Cherry, Acer and Silver Birch**

You will be given more information with a choice of times in the first few of weeks of term. It will be for 10 minutes and timings will need to be kept strictly to so that the day runs smoothly.

### **Topics**

The topics in Year 1 are:

- Science – Autumn and Winter, Everyday materials, Winter and Spring, Animals inc. humans, Plants, Spring and Summer
- Create (Autumn term) – The Rabbit Problem, Art Attack – Kandinsky and Van Gogh, What sound does it make? Rhythms, Can you make it move? Movers and Shakers.
- Discover (Spring term) – Paddox Now and Then – History of Paddox Primary School, Who is the most famous resident of Rugby? – William Webb Ellis, The Royal Family and London, What happened in 1666? – Great Fire of London
- Explore (Summer term) – Where do we live? – United Kingdom – skills and fieldwork, Kenyan Safari – geographical study.
- P.E – Multi skills, Boot camp, Story time dance, Running, Gymnastics, Skip to the beat, Ball skills, Gym fit circuits, Throwing and catching (field games), Core strength, Athletics, Fitness frenzy, Healthy minds, emotions and goals, Hygiene, medicine and exercise, Relationships with others and opinions, Healthy lifestyles, Germ busters.
- Computing – Algorithms, Write, Program, Model.



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- R.E – Who is a Christian and what do they believe? What makes some places sacred? How and why do we celebrate special and sacred times? What does it mean to belong to a faith community?

If you have any expertise in any of these areas and would be willing to share your knowledge or talent with the year group we would love to know.

### **Equipment**

Children should bring in a water bottle to school every day. We have water-coolers on each floor for the children to use to fill up their water bottle during the day, but they should bring it into school ready filled.

We often go outside at playtime and lunchtime when it is raining so children need to bring a waterproof coat to school.

### **Uniform**

We expect our children to wear school uniform. Our school uniform is:

- School sweatshirt or cardigan, or a similar maroon coloured jumper or cardigan
- White blouse, shirt or polo shirt
- Black or grey trousers or skirt.
- Black or grey socks or tights
- Sensible dark shoes (not trainers, heavy boots or shoes without heel support)

For safety reasons children should not wear rings, necklaces or bracelets at school. Hair accessories may be worn for practical reasons in order to keep hair out of children's eyes, not for fashion. Hair accessories should be discrete and in school colours or black. Children with pierced ears may wear studs.

Children wearing large hair accessories, or rings, necklaces or bracelets, unless for religious reasons, will be asked to take them off.

### **Trips and Activities**

To enhance our learning and enjoyment this year, Year 1 will have the following trips and activities planned (there may be more planned during the year so watch this space!). This year, we are making sure that trips and activities over the year do not cost more than £25 in total. Payment for each trip is a voluntary contribution, but if we do not get the money to cover the cost of the trip it cannot go ahead. We appreciate that money is tight for lots of our families, but we do rely on your support and goodwill in order for these enrichment activities to happen. You can pay online on 'School Money' or send cash in to school with your child.



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We will try to keep to these dates and times wherever possible but some may change due to unforeseen circumstances:

- Christmas Carols at Church 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Pantomime in school from 'West End in Schools' 13<sup>th</sup> December – estimated cost £3.50
- Y1 Trip to Rugby Art Gallery and Museum for a workshop on famous people from Rugby spring term – estimated cost £5
- Y1 Trip to Twycross Zoo Summer term – estimated cost £15
- Mothers' Day Assembly at Church 7<sup>th</sup> March
- Y1 Parents Assembly 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 9.15
- Whole School Reading Celebration Week Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>-Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Reading Extravaganza for the whole school community on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July.
- Y1-2 Sports morning, Y3-6 Sports afternoon 12<sup>th</sup> July

### **Come and Learn**

For the last few years we have held 'Open book' afternoons where we have invited parents and families in to look at their children's books alongside their child in their classroom. This year we are developing these sessions into 'Come and Learn' afternoons where you can come in and learn alongside your child, still with the same opportunity to look through their books together.

The purpose of these sessions is to give you an insight into how the children learn in their classroom. It is also very valuable for the children to have the opportunity to share their learning with you at school. This builds their self-confidence and develops their speaking skills in talking about their learning. We do appreciate that not all parents will be able to attend, and we will be talking about this with the children before the day, but other family members such as grandparents could attend alternatively.

We will be inviting you to each session by letter beforehand, but so that you can plan ahead here are the dates of the three sessions. We will try to keep to these dates and times wherever possible but some may have to change due to unforeseen circumstances:

- Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2.15pm – Reading
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2.15pm – Writing
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2.15pm – Maths

Each session will be run twice, once at 2.15pm and again at 2.45pm so that if you have children in different year groups, you can go to both.

### **PE**

PE is taught by Mrs Knight on Monday for Holly and Laurel, and Tuesday for Hawthorn, and by us on Friday. However, the correct PE kit must be in school every day. This is:

- plain white T-shirt or a T-shirt the colour of their team (Farah – yellow, Wiggins – blue, Pendleton – green, Ennis – red)
- black shorts



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Hard work**

- plain, dark coloured jogging bottoms
- trainers
- spare socks
- spare jumper

Please please please name all items of PE kit. It is the children's responsibility to look after their PE kit and hang-it up correctly in the cloakroom. If your child does not have their PE kit for the lesson, they will be asked to use the spare kit we have in school.

We hope you found this information helpful. You are invited to come along to our 'Meet and Greet' in the classroom on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September between 3.30-4.30pm to say hello and ask any questions you may have. Our email addresses are: [merrick.a@welearn365.com](mailto:merrick.a@welearn365.com) and [oldroyd.k@welearn365.com](mailto:oldroyd.k@welearn365.com) and [dinza.n@welearn365.com](mailto:dinza.n@welearn365.com).

Yours sincerely,

Miss Merrick, Miss Oldroyd and Miss Dinza.



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