September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term and to Year 1. At school we hope to make the transition back into school life as smooth as possible and are focusing heavily on the children’s wellbeing and re-establishing relationships. The children are starting to settle into the routines for the new year group and have been increasingly enthusiastic about their learning.

**Topic**

The term is underway and already we have plans for a very exciting topic. We are kick-starting our year with ‘**Amazing** **Animals’**, learning about different types of animals, looking at animals from the past and even some animal stories in Religion. I have attached the Year 1 topic web which shows how the various subjects link with this topic, as well as other areas of the curriculum we hope to cover this term.

**Additional Adults**

Our additional adults in Willow Class are Mr Brown, Mrs Williams, Mrs Smithies, Mrs Cameron and Mrs Pugh. Mr Brown will be with the class everyday throughout the week. Mrs Williams will be with the class on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Mrs Smithies will be with the class on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On Monday afternoons, the children will be taught by Mrs Cameron, who will be teaching PE and English. On Wednesday mornings, the children will be taught by Mrs Pugh, who will be teaching PE and Phonics.

**P.E**

In PE, the class will be covering a wide range of skills, but our main focus this half term will be multi-skills. The children will require their PE kit; a plain red T-shirt, shorts or jogging trousers, sweatshirt and suitable footwear for outside activities. We are asking that children come in already dressed in their P.E kit on their allocated P.E days. Our set days for P.E/Games are Monday and Wednesday. In accordance with the regulations stated in Cambridge County Council’s Health and Safety Guidelines for Physical Education, all children with long hair must have it tied back, and all jewellery must be removed. In the event of children having new ear piercings they should have tape with them to cover the studs. The children must be able to do this for themselves.

**Phonics**

We will continue to have daily phonics sessions to enable the children’s reading, writing and spelling skills to develop.

**Home Learning**

The children will be issued with two books each Monday to take home and read throughout the week. One shall be a banded book related to their phonics and the other will be a free choice from our library corner. These need to be brought back each Monday and two new ones will be issued. Please do keep a record of your child’s reading in their reading record, this will be checked weekly.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to discuss them with me.

Kind regards

Katie Dickerson