

## Welcome to Year 1!

Hello! We thought it would be a good idea to let you know a few things about how this year will work.

Our first topic area will be called '*Who Do You Think You Are?*' this will cover things like ourselves, our senses and our bodies and how we have changed and grown up since we were born and what our aspirations might be for when we grow up.

Our show and tell opportunities are only topic based, so we do not bring toys to school unless we are asked to and it is related to the topic. We will not do show and tell every day.

Your children will now keep their book bags in their drawer so the bag needs to be able to fit! No big rucksacks please!

**Reading:** The children will have a couple of opportunities to change their reading book during the week but this will not be every day. Reading books have enough picture content and language opportunities to be re-read several times. They will also bring home a library book so they will be able to use that, but we are sure you have books at home that they can look at if required. (Library for Zebras –Wednesday/ Lions –Tuesday) A box will be put out in the classrooms for children to change their book if they want to; this will happen a couple of times each week in addition to reading with adults. We will give them plenty of opportunities to do this and they will learn what to do, don't worry! **Please don't forget** it is really important to write comments in the Reading Record to let us know how your child reads at home, this can also be how you communicate with us on anything else. Please tell us if they enjoyed it, which words they sound out really well or if they struggled.

Please let us know in the morning if someone else will be picking your child up, or remember to phone the office as soon as you know.

**PE Kits:** We will have PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are sometimes other opportunities during the week so the children need to have their PE kit here all week. The children will need a t-shirt and shorts, if the weather is fine they may have PE outside and therefore will need a tracksuit or jogging bottoms and hoodie/ sweatshirt & trainers. **Please name all items!** PE bags can also be used for spare underwear & socks just in case!! It is best that earrings are not worn on PE days, we can cover them with tape but many children do not like this.

**Using the Outdoors:** As you have probably noticed we are developing an outdoor area for Year 1. This means we will be venturing out in all weathers. Therefore could you please provide your child with a pair of wellington boots that can stay in school.

**Home/school diary sheets:** This information will be displayed in our classroom window and on the school website – we will not be sending home an individual copy as we are trying to be more environmentally friendly.

Year 1 starts off quite gently so please don't worry that it's going to be very formal, it's more about routines and independence to start with.

Please come and see us if you want to talk about anything!

Amanda Stewart and Rich Leather