



**Harwell Community Primary School**

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Dear Parent/Guardians,

**Term 1 Parent Information Letter**

Hope you have all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to the coming year. We are so excited to welcome children to school to start their Year 1 journey. It is important to recognise that in school we will be working hard to ensure each child is safe and happy, in lines with the latest government guidance.

I wanted this letter to give you all an outline of the curriculum for the Autumn Term, which is below.

The topic this half term is: Ahoy me hearties!

In **Literacy** the children will follow the Talk for Writing scheme using Kassim and the Greedy Pirate as our stimulus for various pieces of writing. The children will continue to use Read Write Inc for **Phonics**. To begin the term we will be teaching whole class phonics, focussed phonics learning with set groups and setting children from there.

Children will be given a reading record at the start of the term that is taken home everyday in the book bags with their phonics-reading book and an additional book at the appropriate level. Your child is more than welcome to take books from our class Reading Den as long as an adult is made aware. Reading at home with your child is paramount to improve their fluency and confidence.

**Maths** this term will focus on number and place value, ensuring the children are fully confident in their basic understanding before their next steps. It would be great if you could count

forwards and backwards with your children at home, as this will consolidate the learning taking place in the classroom.

**PE** will take place on Tuesday afternoon. We will require your child to **come into school in their kit** on a Tuesday, until told otherwise. In this first term, it is important that they have appropriate **outdoor kits** as we will be in the AGP for lessons until further notice. A reminder that children are also not allowed to wear jewellery during PE or swimming, so all earrings and other items must be removed.

**Homework** in Year 1 will be different from Foundation and the aim is to get them settled into the Year 1 school routine first. However, I suggest that homework for the first term is for you to read with your child every evening and then record some comments in the record book that will be provided. They can practise their set sounds for 5 minutes a day, I can provide a Sound Mat with videos to support their understanding. You can also practise counting and making numbers with objects at home, like pasta. Ask your child to count out \_\_\_, then ask them one more or one less for example.

I would greatly appreciate any recycling that you may have at home as our Workshop Area could always use more resources for junk modelling, which I know the children love! However, depending on the activity you may need to help by providing materials such as egg boxes/cereal boxes,/toilet rolls for certain tasks.

The **Outcome** for this term will be on Thursday 22nd October. I invite you all to come in for our dressing like a pirate day. You will have the opportunity to look at your child's book and talk to them about Year 1 so far. This will include characters they have added to our tale, masks, ships, experiments and more. We will be keeping a close eye on government guidelines to ensure that we do this is the safest way for you and your children and of course let you know any updates as we go.

Throughout the year you will receive emails/letters regarding specific activities. I hope this letter covers any queries about this starting term, if not please feel free to talk to me after school with any questions you may have or email the office.

Miss Thomson and the Year 1 Team

***Please can you provide a plastic bottle (any size that can be recycled) for Monday 7th September. This can be sent in on Thursday.***