

School Days

Year 1 Newsletter – September 2020



Engage – Inspire - Empower

Welcome to Year 1

We hope you all had a lovely time over the summer and are ready to start the new school year. We are looking forward to getting to know you and working together as we offer the children exciting new learning opportunities.

Transition from Reception to Year 1

At the start of the term, we will be settling the children in and doing all that we can to ensure that they feel safe and secure in their new environment. The Year 1 curriculum builds upon and extends the experiences that children have enjoyed in Reception. This is to help them remain motivated and enthusiastic learners as we work towards a smooth transition from Reception into Year 1.

The Year 1 Team



Holly Class: Anita and Maria
PPA Teacher: Nursel



Sequoia Class: Sakina, Debbie and Michelle
PPA Teacher: Ruth

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place during the first half term. Due to the current circumstances, these will be held over the phone. See Deborah's newsletter on our website for more details.

For up to date information, please refer to our school website at: www.jennyhammond.waltham.sch.uk. You can also keep up to date by downloading the JHPS app on your device.

Our TOPIC this half-term is **School Days**.

During the topic the children will:

- Compare modern day school and schools in the past, identifying similarities and differences.
- Look at their local environment and identify the key features of the school.
- Be able to identify and describe differences between old and new schools.
- Know by heart a range of playground songs and rhymes.
- Identify and name a variety of common plants, including garden plants, wild plants and trees.

PE

PE will be on **Friday for children in Holly Class and Sequoia class**. This half term we will be focusing on developing our ball skills and taking part in a variety of playground games.

Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on Friday. As with all uniform, please ensure that items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name on it.

PE kit is a plain white t-shirt and blue shorts. As the weather is becoming cooler, we recommend that children wear blue tracksuit bottoms, with their school sweatshirt and suitable footwear as we will be doing PE outdoors as much as possible.



Water Bottles

Please bring in a water bottle for your child each day to keep in class for them to access throughout the day. Please make that sure your child's name is clearly written on the bottle.



School Days

Maths

In Maths, we will be focusing on number and place value and practicing counting to and across 100, forwards and backwards. We will also be counting in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s. We will then move onto adding and subtracting numbers using number bonds and subtraction facts within 20. Later on in the term, we will solve practical problems involving length and weight.

Tips for maths at home: Have a go at some of the activities on these websites.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

<http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/>

English

To begin with, we will be carrying out an exciting whole school English project. The book we are using is a lovely aid for transition as its themes are an important representation of what we are experiencing at the minute. We will then move on to describe differences between modern day schools and schools of the past with a focus on descriptive language. We will be using the text 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson as a stimulus for a number of reading, writing and speaking and listening opportunities.

Tips for English at home: Reading with your child every day will really help their learning. You could read to them, listen to them read or read together. You can also do some fun activities online at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/>

Science

In Science, we will identify and name a variety of common plants, including garden plants, wild plants and trees. We will also be exploring the plants in our environment and around the school. We will learn the terms 'deciduous' and 'evergreen' and use these to classify plants and trees.

Creative Development

In our Art lessons, we will draw and paint our self-portraits, selecting appropriate colours and adding detail to our work. We will look at the work of L.S. Lowry and create a pastel picture of the school in a similar style. In Geography, we will look at our local environment and identify key features of the school. In Design and Technology, we will be designing and building our ideal school.

RE and Circle Time

In RE we will be offering children the opportunity to see themselves as valued individuals within a community. Children will be able to talk about themselves and their lives.

During Circle Time, we will be focusing on the children's health and wellbeing by discussing the children's hopes about the new school year and addressing any fears they may have about returning to school. We will also be helping the children to develop a growth mind set. This encourages the children to become resilient in their learning by challenging themselves and understanding that it is okay to make mistakes.

Dates for your diary

Half term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October.

Children break up for Christmas on Friday 18th December 2020 at 2.30pm and return on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Individual and sibling photos: Thursday 24th September 2020

Jeans for Genes Day: Friday 25th September 2020. Your child can come to school in non-uniform and wear their jeans. Please bring in £1.00 to support this important charity.

And finally, if you have any questions or concerns for us, please send a note in with your child and we will get back to you as soon as we can. We are always happy to help!

Best Wishes, The Year 1 Teaching Team