

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope you had an enjoyable and restful half term. We are very excited to welcome the children back to school and get going on another jam-packed term of learning. This term we are focusing on 'The Storm Whale' and our history topic will focus on significant individuals with a focus on Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus.

This will be my last term in Class 1 before I head off on maternity leave. Mrs Serle will be in Class 1 from Monday 15th April and is very much looking forward to this. She will be popping into class before then to get reacquainted with the children. I plan to be in school after the Easter break for a further few weeks, should all things be going well and so I am sure I will continue to see the children around school for a while longer!

Mrs Dyminski will be in class on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th March with two fun packed days of art.

Our stay and share session for the term will be on Thursday 7th March from 2.30. We hope to see lots of you there!

Please do not hesitate to speak with me after school about any concerns or queries. Miss Igoe ☺

Home learning

Reading – daily reading at home is one of the most important things you can do to support your child. Even if your child is a free reader, hearing them read, helping with unfamiliar vocabulary and discussing the story and characters makes a huge difference. The books we send home from school will be matched to your child's current reading ability so that they can decode the text, understand what they have read and be able to discuss the book with an adult. We check reading records daily so please write a note of your child's reading and send it to school every day.

The overview for the phonics teaching this term can be found on the next page of the newsletter.

Maths – learning in this term will be on place value and numbers to 50 www.topmarks.co.uk has lots of great games. We will then move onto length and height.

Please do not hesitate to make contact should home learning not make sense or is confusing! The children should always recognise the learning as it is based on the things we do in class. Maths and English (reading comprehension) will be on alternate weeks beginning Wednesday 21st February.

Drop off and collection arrangements:

8:45am drop off at the main gate (please pass on any messages to the teachers on duty or the school office)

3:15pm collection from the school playground.

PE: Class 1 has PE on Tuesdays and children can come to school wearing their PE kits on this day. All items of PE kit need to be clearly labelled and, as it gets colder, should consist of lots of layers and suitable outdoor footwear. Please ensure your child has a named, refillable water bottle in school every day too.

Forest School: Forest school clothes (long sleeved tops, trousers/leggings and waterproofs) can be worn to school on Forest School days. Named wellies can either be left in school on the racks outside of the classroom, or brought to school in a named bag on the day and taken home again. Our Forest School sessions are **Tuesday 27th February and Wednesday 20th March.**

We are very lucky to be joined by Miss Airey again this term, the children are really fond of her already. She will be in school every day and you will probably see her at pick up time. Her last day will be Wednesday 20th March.

Miss Igoe

Spring 2

Week 1 – 19th February

Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: a (as in acorn), a (as in fast), a (as in was), e (as in he) Teach reading the common exception words water, where, who, again

Week 2 – 26th February

Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: i (as in mind), o (as in no), u (as in unit), u (as in put) Teach reading the common exception words thought, through, mouse, work

Week 3 – 4th March

Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: ow (as in snow), ie (as in chief), ea (as in head), er (as in her) Teach reading the common exception words many, laughed, because

Week 4 – 11th March

Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: ou (as in you), ou (as in could), ou (as in mould), y (as in by), y (as in gym) Teach reading the common exception words different, any, eyes

Week 5 – 18th March

Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: y (as in very), ch (as in school), ch (as in chef), c (as in cell), g (as in gent), ey (as in they) Teach reading the common exception words friends, once, please

Week 6 – 25th March (2 days)

Assess and review alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading Assess and review reading new common exception words and correct use of NC endings

(NC) National Curriculum