



Wisdom Begins in Wonder! Socrates

8th September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to all our parents and children in Class 1. We hope that you have had an enjoyable, relaxing summer break.

This half term will focus on settling the children back into school, becoming familiar with routines and expectations and over the next few weeks we will plan activities around the topic 'All About Me/Ourselves.' We will take into account the children's interests and ideas and will take a flexible approach to learning experiences. You will find an overview of our planning on the school website in class 1's page. Our planning is flexible and adaptable to meet the needs and interests of every child.

Here are a few reminders and information regarding daily routines and classroom organisation.

- Staff will be on the playground from 8.50 a.m. to meet your child at the school gate and for pick up at the end of the day at 3.15pm.
- School will start at 9.00 a.m and we will bring your child into the classroom to self-register which will enable them to practise mark making and writing their own name. They will be encouraged to be independent and hang their own coat and bag on to their peg in the cloak room.
- Please continue to emphasise the importance of handwashing at home. At school, handwashing will be an essential part of your child's routine.
- Registration takes place at 9.00 a.m. After School Club and bus registers are also taken at the beginning of each morning. Please ensure your child understands the arrangements for going home, or please notify the office of any changes.
- A healthy snack is provided to all **Nursery** children every morning and afternoon. The cost is 25 pence per day for either a morning or afternoon, or 50 pence if they stay all day. Free milk is provided.
- **Reception** children may bring a healthy snack to have during morning break time. Free milk is provided for Reception children up until their 5th birthday. Fresh fruit is available during the afternoon session.
- Your child can bring a school bag, a named water bottle, a snack (reception children), a coat and a packed lunch if they are having one. When we have established home reading books with the reception children, they can also be brought into school every day. No other belongings or toys are to be brought into school unless staff request something specific which is linked to their learning.
- School dinners are free for all **Reception** children under the current government scheme. **Nursery** children can have school dinners at a cost of £2.40 per day.
- P.E sessions will take place on Monday and Wednesdays when we are able to use the hall or go outdoors. Please can your child come to school dressed in their P.E. clothes on these days.
- It would be helpful for your **Nursery** child to have a spare set of clothes in school. These can be left in school in a named carrier bag, just in case they are ever needed. Your child can also leave a pair of wellington boots in school.

Reading and Homework

The **Nursery** children will choose a library book to bring home to share with you. Please read through the story with them, talk about the story and draw a picture about it in the book which we provide. Library books will be changed depending upon the days they attend.

The **Reception** children will have a reading book to share with you at home. Reading books will be changed twice a week. Please bring reading books into school daily. It is useful for your child to have a schoolbook bag which can be purchased from the school office, as their book folders and other items fit well into these and can be stored easily in our cloak room. The individual support you give your child at home in reading is both invaluable and essential. Re reading of some books should be encouraged to help develop familiarity and confidence. Please add your comments in their blue reading record book.

Reception children will also be given letter sounds and key words to practise at home to reinforce phonics and reading work taking place in the classroom. They will also choose a library book once a week to share with you at home. Please read other story books at home to your child to develop their understanding of language and to extend their vocabulary and the meaning of new words – and of course to develop their love of books and reading!

Phonics

We will be holding a session in school for parents of children in Class 1, including nursery, and Class 2 on the morning of **Tuesday 14th September** from **9am to 9.30am**. This will be to talk about how we teach children to read and write using phonics and how you can support your child at home.

We will share with you details of our phonics programme and expectations as the children move through the first few years of primary school. Everyone is welcome. If you are unable to make the session and wish to discuss how to use phonics at home, please contact Mrs Helliwell and she will arrange a suitable time to discuss this further with you.

Staffing

Mrs Grayson will be working in class 1 all day on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning. Miss Raymode will be working on Wednesday afternoon and all-day Thursday and Friday. Julie will be working in class 1 from Monday to Friday. The best way to contact us is via email or by phoning the school office and we will get back to you as soon as possible. We will always see you in the mornings and after school at the school gate if you need to discuss anything with us then.

Class 1 will continue to be retained as a separate class for both Nursery and Reception children. The small number of children this year will enable us to join with class 2 at times. We anticipate that this will be for two to three afternoon sessions a week. This will ensure that the children receive a good balance of group teaching and social interactions with their peers. They will also join during assembly times and story times throughout the week.

Tapestry

We currently use 'Tapestry' which is a secure online journal, recording the progress and achievements your child makes during their time with us in Class 1. Please do continue to use your Tapestry account to record your child's achievements and any other things that you would like to share with us. If you haven't yet activated your Tapestry account, then we will send an email with details to get you started.

We hope that you have found this information helpful. Please do contact us if there is anything else you wish to know or if you have any concerns at all. kathryn.grayson@castlecarrock.cumbria.sch.uk
jess.raymode@castlecarrock.cumbria.sch.uk

We are looking forward to working together with you and your child throughout the year.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Grayson, Miss Raymode and Julie