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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you have had a lovely summer and are refreshed and ready for Year 1. It's the start of a new year and we are looking forward to all the exciting learning we have planned. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about a few things and to introduce you to some details concerning the forthcoming year for your child in Year 1.



Topic

Year 1 is the beginning of Key Stage One where your child will begin to access the National Curriculum 2014. Most subjects are taught through a termly theme/topic to help make the learning more meaningful for the children. Our first topic for Year 1 is called 'As the Nights Get Longer'. Through this topic will be finding out about the four seasons and the differences between them. Our learning will focus on the changes that occur as we progress through the seasons and we will be learning about things that happen as a result of the darker nights. We will be finding out about nocturnal animals which links to our focus texts: 'Owl Babies' and 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'.



PE

PE lessons are on Mondays and Wednesdays. However, please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day as we may occasionally have PE on another day. The main kit is shorts, t-shirt and suitable footwear. Please ensure that everything is labelled clearly. Tracksuits may be sent in when the weather is cold. Children should have long hair tied back, not wear any jewellery during these lessons and all earrings must either be taken out or covered with micropore tape provided by you.



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Homework

Reading books will be changed on a weekly basis following Guided Reading sessions on an allocated day (Monday/Wednesday). The learning objective will be in the home/school planner and a short task linked with the book will be in their homework book (Yellow book). The Guided Reading task will be set on a Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday. Please read with your child as often as possible and make comments in their planner. Planners will be taken in overnight on your child's allocated Guided Reading day and this is my opportunity to read any comments you may have written.

If you have access to the internet, the school website has links to some very useful websites so please take a look. 'Purple Mash' has a range of activities which are fun to explore with you child.

You are warmly invited to a short meeting for Year 1 parents on Wednesday 13th September at 5.00pm. I will be giving a presentation expanding on the contents of this letter, outlining what to expect this year; routines in Year 1 and ways you can support your child's learning at home. The meeting will be held in the Year 1 classroom. If you have any concerns or need to give me a message please speak to me in the morning, if it is a quick message, write in the planner and ask your child to hand it to me in the morning. If the message is urgent, please ring the office who will pass the message onto me.

I look forward to a fabulous year working with you and your child and hope to see you Tuesday.

Yours faithfully

Miss C Robinson and Mrs K Woodcock