

**No limits to Learning!**

**Ready Respectful Safe**

**Key Stage 1 Newsletter**

We are already in full swing this term and the children have been very enthusiastic about their topics ‘’To Infinity and Beyond’ (Year 1) and ‘Let it Grow’ (Year 2). After half term, Year 1 will be learning about Animals, while Year 2 will be learning about The Great Fire of London. Please do look at the website which shows you an overview of the topics covered. As always, if you have any resources or expertise in any of the above areas, do let a member of staff know, as we would welcome any contributions.

**Staffing**

Unfortunately, we are having to say good bye to Miss Henderson, who will be leaving on Friday to concentrate on her other work commitments . She has been a fantastic teaching assistant in KS1 and I know the children and staff will really miss her but luckily she will be back in May to teach swimming.

**Reading**

As a team, we can’t stress enough the importance of hearing your child read at home every day. Unfortunately, we have noticed so many children are not reading regularly to an adult at home. There is a significant difference in the progress the children make in reading when they read to an adult regularly at home. It is also really important to check their understanding of what they read through detailed and thorough questioning. We still ask that you write in the title of the book the child has read and that you sign your child’s reading record, when you hear your child read. Reading a broad range of books is essential to help children develop as readers, please record any reading your child does at home, not just the reading scheme books.

There is a variety of information available to you as parents to support your child with Phonics. To find out more please visit the following website: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/> you can then click on the ‘For Parents’ tab. Here you will find videos to demonstrate the sounds taught in each term and how to teach reading tricky words and blending. There is also the option to download pronunciation sheets; these give guidance on mouth shape and positioning of the tongue to produce sounds correctly.

Please ensure Little Wandle Reading books are returned on a Monday as we need them for the children to read during the week.

**Homework**

In Year 1 and Year 2 each half term, the children have a topic homework sheet with different activities on for them to complete. We love seeing how creative they can be and really enjoy sharing the work they have completed with the rest of their class.

The children also have access to Numbots – their individual login is on a label on the front of their reading record book. We really encourage the children to play this daily at home. Each Friday, in celebration assembly, we celebrate the 3 children who have collected the most coins from that week. The overall winner has a trophy which they are presented with and which stays on their desk in their classroom. When children complete a stage, they will also be rewarded with a certificate. Please do encourage your children to use this app as it really will improve their mathematical skills.

[NumBots | Motivational maths practice for schools and families.](https://numbots.com/)

Year 2 children also have access to Spelling Shed. Their login is also on the cover of their reading record book. There are different spelling games that they can play and different homework activities which are set periodically for the children to complete.

<https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

Please do encourage your children to use our online learning apps as it really will improve their mathematical and spelling skills. See your child’s teacher if you have misplaced their login or are having any issues with them.

**P.E. Reminder**

Every class has P.E. lessons each week. These may be indoors or outdoors and the day they do PE can often change so please can we ask that all children have the correct P.E. kit in school and leave it at school for the half term. Unfortunately, we have noticed so many children do not have the correct PE kit, which goes against our Behaviour for Learning and our rule of “Ready to Learn”. Your child must wear navy blue shorts and the white school t/shirt. A dark coloured tracksuit top or hoodie can be worn when it is cold. If your child wears tights, please ensure they have a pair of white socks in their PE kit. Please ensure all pieces of clothing are **clearly labelled**, this includes their school uniform, as with clothes looking so similar they often get muddled up!

**PE Days**

Year 1KJ – Monday and Friday

Year 1VMG – Tuesday and Friday

Year 2 – Monday and Wednesday

**Water bottles/Fruit**

Can we remind all children to bring in a named water bottle. The bottle must be filled with water and not juice; this is regularly checked by the teachers in the class. During snack time, the children are offered a free piece of fruit to eat but are more than welcome to bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable from home to eat.

**Uniform**

Whilst it is still cold, please make sure your child has a **named** coat, hat and gloves to keep them warm whilst they are playing outside. It would be helpful if they could do up their own coats and know how to put their gloves in their coat pocket etc. We have noticed that more and more children are wearing trainers or boots to school. They need to wear black school shoes. If there is a problem with you being able to provide school shoes for your child then please speak to your child’s class teacher or one of our Child and Family Support Workers.

Thank you once again for all your support. If you have any concerns, please can we ask you to call or email the office and they will then pass on any messages and a teacher will then call you back after school. Alternatively, pop in and see the teacher at the end of the day.

Mrs Brech and the KS1 team.