

Key Stage 1 Newsletter

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to everybody! I would just like to congratulate the Key Stage One team and children for the wonderful Christmas production of 'It's Chr-i-i-istmas'. Thank you to parents/carers for your support as well. It certainly brought some seasonal magic into the school! We would also like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas themed book café, it was a huge success and a great end to the term. We raised £77 for Alexander Devine Children's Hospice. The next book café will take place in the Infant Studio on Friday 31st January 2020.

This term our new topics are Rags to Riches for Year 1 and Fire and Life in the Freezer for Year 2. 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.

Reading

As a team, we can't stress enough the importance of hearing your child read at home every day. We are finding some children are not reading at all 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 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. This tells us whether they have read the book so that we know if they can change it on a Monday. 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. We also encourage you to share your child's library book together.

Independence

Now it is cold, please make sure your child has a named coat, hat, scarf and gloves to keep them warm whilst they are playing outside and doing the Daily Mile. It would be helpful if they could do up their own coats and know how to put their gloves in their coat pocket etc. May we remind you that all children are old enough to come into the classroom on their own. We would appreciate it if the children said goodbye to parents at the outside blue doors and then carry all their own belongings in to the classroom and put their own stuff away independently. The beginning of the day is always busy and we try to start learning promptly at 9.00. If you need to speak to a teacher, please arrange to see the teacher at the end of the day when they are less busy and have more time to meet with you. Please be aware that teachers have after school meetings on a Wednesday and Thursday and may be running a club on a Monday after school, so perhaps a Tuesday or Friday is best if you need a longer meeting.

P.E. Reminder

Every class has P.E. lessons each week. These may be indoors or outdoors. We ask that the children bring the correct P.E. kit to school. Please ask at the office or look on the website if you are unsure of the correct kit. Your child must have dark coloured tracksuit bottoms and a dark coloured fleece/hoodie for outside games as it gets very cold and their blue shorts for indoor PE. If your child wears tights, please ensure they have a pair of socks in their PE kit. Could you please ensure that stud earrings are removed for P.E. day and all pieces of clothing are **clearly labelled**, this includes their school uniform, as with clothes looking so similar they often get muddled up!

Water bottles and Fruit

We encourage children to bring a named water bottle into school; this can be sipped throughout the day. Every day your child will bring home their drinking bottle so it can be washed and filled up for the next day. This is a good way of monitoring how much water your child is drinking throughout the day. If a child doesn't have a drinking bottle, they can be purchased from the Office at a cost of £1.50. Every morning the children are offered a free piece of fruit to eat. If your child isn't keen on the choices, they are encouraged to bring an extra piece of fruit in their lunchbox to eat mid-morning. This helps to promote good eating habits, which helps them to stay healthy and focused at school.

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Brech, Infant Phase Leader