

Year 1 Autumn term 2017

Welcome to Year 1! We hope that you have enjoyed your summer and are excited about learning new things together in year 1.

Elmer the Elephant



Our first topic is Ourselves and Other Animals and is a Science, and Geography topic. We will explore the topic using the stories of Elmer the Elephant by David McKee and Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell. It will help us to look at how we are all special and unique and to celebrate our differences as well as look at what makes us similar to other animals. We will compare Elmer to African elephants and look at some aspects of African culture through other stories such as Handa's Surprise, using art and music to inspire us.

Families and Belonging

The first two RE topics link nicely together and fit into our overall theme as we look at what it means to be part of our own family and God's family before exploring how we can belong within those families and in other areas of our life such as in sports clubs and uniformed organisations. Please talk to your child and share memories and experiences of wider family times. We will encourage them at certain points to bring in photos showing their families and also to share their experience of belonging to groups and organisations outside school.



Maths



In maths we will be looking at numbers and counting so any practice you can do with your child at writing, reading and counting numbers up to 20 will really help them. We will also begin some addition and subtraction using + - = signs and simple word problems.

Homework

In year 1 we have weekly homework in special homework books which will be sent home each Tuesday and due to be returned the following Monday. This will usually consist of a handwriting practice and a number activity. We also expect you to regularly listen to your child read and initial the link book accordingly. Within a few weeks we will start to send home a small spelling book. This will have a short list of spellings for your child to learn at home. There will be a spelling test the following week. There is also one piece of project type homework each half term either set by us or as whole school homework. This half term it is the Animal project due in on September 25th.

Finally a quick reminder that PE is on Monday and Thursday when the children are encouraged to come in joggers and polo shirt for ease of changing although PE bags are expected to be in school at all times.

Please do not hesitate to speak to either teacher if you have any concerns at any point – we are happy to spend 5 minutes with you at the end of the day or arrange a time to speak on the phone.

Many thanks

Mrs Weston and Mrs Crowley