

10th September 2014

## Class 1H Information Letter

Dear Parents

Hello and welcome back! I have already had the pleasure of meeting lots of you, and am looking forward to introducing myself to rest of you in the coming weeks. 1H has made me feel very welcome and I am excited to have joined such a fantastic school.

Here is some important information about our class.

### **Drop off and equipment**

Please ensure that your child is on the school playground by 8:55 in order that they can line up with their friends and walk into class with me. If for any reason you are late, please take your child to the school office. Your child will need to bring in their PE kit on a Monday and we will ensure that it is sent home on Friday. Please also ensure that each item of their kit is named so that it is easier for us to match up lost items to children. I would also ask that you provide your child with a water bottle each day as it is important for children to drink regularly to keep hydrated.

### **Pick up**

Please arrive promptly for pick up at the end of the day. If you know you will be arriving late, please notify the office staff. Children not collected by 3:30pm will wait for you in the main entrance to the school building. Please inform myself or the office if you have made arrangements for someone else to collect your child.

### **Reading Books**

We will change reading books on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Please ensure that your child's reading book and reading record book are in their book bag every day. To develop independence I am encouraging the children to take their reading book and record book out of their book bag each morning and place in a basket. To allow us to change books quickly and efficiently, please do clearly state where your child has read to, or if they have finished.

### **Spellings**

I will not be issuing a spelling list on a weekly basis to the class. Throughout the year I would encourage you to work with your child to help them learn how to spell the list of 100 high frequency words that they will be using most days in their writing. This will be very beneficial. I will split the list into 3 parts, and send one home each term with your child.

### **Phonics**

1H will have a phonics session every day. In the autumn term we will be focusing on a phoneme each week as well as recapping previously covered work. Your child will have a slip of paper in their book bags each Friday afternoon informing you of the following week's phoneme and some possible activities you could do at home. This is not a homework that needs to be handed in, but will complement and benefit your child's learning.

### **Maths Homework**

We will be sending home a maths game for your child to play. These will be handed out on a Friday and are to be returned no later than Thursday the following week. Each game will have information about the maths objective the game addresses and each child will be given a book in which you can record any comments about how your child got on with the objective.

### **Green ticks**

These will be awarded to children for working hard, being helpful, good behaviour etc. These are displayed on a chart in class. Every five ticks that are earned, results in 1 sticker for their sticker card. Once the card is complete they receive a prize of their choice and they can take their card home and start a new one.

On occasion a red tick may need to be issued. This will be for repeated inappropriate behaviour that has continued even though a clear warning has been given.

### **Things to show**

At the end of the day, when there is enough time, I have found it is a lovely opportunity for children to share with the class something that is important to them. This may be something they have made, found or has special memories. Please talk with your child about what they would like to bring to show the class, as the item needs to be something that your child can talk about in depth. This 'showing' time provides a great opportunity for listening, questioning and presentation skills to develop. I would ask that no toys are brought in.

### **Marty the Bear**

Marty the Bear is still a popular member of 1H and would like to continue visiting the children, in each of their homes, throughout the year. He will come home with a child on a Friday and is to be returned to school with the child on a Monday. I ask that each child completes one page of Marty's diary when they take him home. If your child is selected to take him home, he will come in a small bag with a laminated sheet with more detailed information.

**Letters**

Please check your child's book bag and email account daily for letters. Children need to hand in the replies to me during registration. I am encouraging independence so I will ask children if they have anything to hand in but will not be looking through their book bags on a regular basis. Please remind your children on their way into school if they have letters to hand in. Prompt replies are appreciated as this allows us to finalise arrangements for school events in good time.

**Requests**

If you are able to spend an hour in the afternoon listening to children in 1H read then I would be very grateful as I'm sure you can appreciate that it is very important to give children the opportunity to read as much as possible. At the moment Tuesday, Thursday and Friday are the afternoons that are available.

**Questions or concerns**

These should be brought to my attention as soon as possible. You can speak to me any morning before school between 8:45 and 8:55 except on Tuesdays when it is my duty day. Alternatively I will be available Thursday or Friday at the end of the day. If you require more than a few minutes discussion I will be happy to make an appointment for you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Nicola Aplin  
Class Teacher