

WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher

Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

Dear **Year One** Parent(s)/Carer(s),

September 2017

Welcome back to a new school year and a very warm welcome to Year One. This letter contains some valuable information about the year ahead.

Beginning and end of the day

It is important that your child arrives promptly at school in the morning, to give them the best possible start to the day. All the children are expected to line up smartly in the main playground with their class at **8:50am** to be met by a member of staff. At **8:55am** your child will walk into school with their class. In Year One, we encourage the children to become increasingly independent by carrying their own belongings. If a child arrives after this time and does not enter school with their class, they will be recorded as late in the register. If a child arrives after **9:15am** the register will have closed and therefore they will have to be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Any children who are late arriving for school must go directly to the office to let the staff know they have arrived. At 3:30pm, Year One will exit the school via the **main entrance** and will be accompanied by a member of staff from our class. Please inform the class teacher or the office if your child's end-of-day arrangements change. If your child attends an extra-curricular club at school and they are ever cancelled, as much notice as possible will be given. In the event of cancellation, children are reminded to report straight to the office if nobody arrives to collect them from school.

Uniform

In the classroom and playground your child is expected to wear full school uniform with sensible black school shoes and not trainers. Trainers can be worn at lunchtimes for sporting activities, but must be changed for afternoon lessons. High heels, open-toe sandals and crocs are unsuitable wear for school and children wearing these, or trainers, will be asked to change into P.E. pumps whilst in school. Hair accessories should be small and neat and school colours. Please ensure **all** belongings are labelled, including shoes and trainers, to avoid confusion at changing times.

Reading

Each week reading will be undertaken in a range of ways within school (Big Read, guided reading, shared reading, comprehension or 1:1). Every child must bring their folders with their book(s) and reading record into class each day. It is vital to establish a routine as quickly as possible. Please try to read with your child as often as possible and at least three times a week (10 minutes at a time is adequate). There will be 2 boxes in the classroom which the children must put their folders into. An adult must sign the reading record when the book has been completed and only then will a new book be given. Please use the reading records to communicate with us - your child's reading and their understanding of the given text. We are more than happy to support, demonstrate and suggest reading and comprehension techniques if required.

Homework

Letters and Sounds spellings or exercises will be tested on a **Monday** and new spellings or activities will go home on a **Tuesday**. Weekly Maths homework will be given on a **Friday** and will need to be returned by the following **Friday**. Year One children are expected to know times tables, starting with the 2, 5 and 10 times tables (both in and out of order) and we ask that these are practised at home. A topic project activity will be sent home every half term and it will link to the current topic. I may also send additional activities for your child to try at home that will help them to secure an area of learning every now and then. Please help your child to complete their homework and ensure it is returned to school by the given date, as we often share our work. Year One children will also be given the opportunity to take home a toy from the classroom and write a diary entry about your adventures! Keep an eye out for that soon!

P.E

Our P.E sessions will currently take place on a **Monday** morning. Please ensure your child has a full P.E. kit in a suitable bag at all times. Their P.E. clothing should be plain and in school uniform colours – no football shirts. They must change footwear and have a blue/white T-shirt or warm top, blue or black shorts and/or appropriate trousers (e.g. track suit bottoms). There must be black pumps for indoor P.E and trainers for outdoor P.E. Kits should be taken home for cleaning regularly as hygiene is important. Please ensure **all** belongings are labelled clearly with your child's name.

Swimming

Year One swim on a **Wednesday afternoon – 2:15 -3:25**. Unless an arrangement has been made with Mrs Goodall, Miss Ellis, Mrs Walton or myself and a note has been provided, your child must take part in the swimming lesson as part of their curriculum. All pupils will need to bring a named one piece costume/fitted swimming shorts and a towel in a suitable labelled bag. I would also recommend goggles for children who are sensitive to chlorine. If you can help with swimming, please let me know as soon as possible, as without support, swimming cannot, unfortunately, take place. DBS clearance must be given before you are able to act as a volunteer. Forms are available from the school office.

Bikes and Scooters

We have scooter and bike racks installed at the front of school. If your child is going to scoot or cycle to school please ensure a home-school agreement has been signed and returned to us. If you require an agreement form, please let me know or contact the office. Helmets can be stored in school.

Snacks

Your child can bring in a snack and drink of water for playtime and these can be stored in our classroom. We are a healthy eating school therefore we cannot allow unhealthy snacks. If you would like to send a snack to school with your child please ensure that it is healthy. We continue to offer fresh fruit in school for children to choose daily. Children are also able to drink water within class. We have children in school who suffer from nut allergies, we are therefore a nut free school. Please pay serious consideration to this when sending food into school.

Website

Please remember to log onto our school website. The site is updated with news and important notices for your information. Year One's learning page is updated with current topic news, important information and dates for your diary – it's definitely worth a look!

Holidays

Please note that holidays during term time are no longer authorised and may be subject to a fine.

We hope we have covered everything in this letter. If you have any concerns please contact the office via text/email/phone. Everyone in class is looking forward to a busy and exciting year. We will hopefully see you next week at our *'Meet the Teacher'* meeting. This is a great opportunity to meet us and find out more about life in Year One. There will be an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into Year One at Parents' Evening in October. Here's to an exciting year ahead!

Kind regards,

Mrs Thirsk, Mrs Moorcroft and Mrs Lawes ☺

Year One class teacher and teaching assistants



Days to remember in Year One!



Monday	Spelling tests – remember your spelling book! P.E (am) Make sure you have your full P.E kit in school.
Tuesday	New spellings are on their way home to you!
Wednesday	Swimming (pm) Make sure you have your swimming kit! 2:15-3:25
Thursday	Little Voices after school club available
Friday	Maths homework will be collected and new homework will be given.

