

Class Information for Parents

Welcome to Year One!

Availability

If you need to speak to me about your child or have any concerns, issues or queries, I need to know on the day, please either send a note into school with your child or leave a message with the office who will pass it with me. Due to the new timings of the day and welcoming all the children in, I won't be able to talk in length at the start of the day. If you feel you may need longer. Please see me to arrange an appointment after school or email the office on admin@holytrinity.gloucs.sch.uk If you can't find the information you need on the class page, in this newsletter or from the school office, then please contact me on my email jenevans@holytrinity.gloucs.sch.uk, I will get back to you as soon as possible and will reply to any emails on Monday if contacted over the weekend.

Being on Time

Our day starts at 8.45 am and the gates are open at 8.40 am. It is so important that your child arrives on time so they know what is happening each day and is part of the attendance and dinner register. Our 'formal learning' starts promptly at 9am after the register. Home time is at 3.15pm, with the gates being opened at 3.10pm. Please do inform the office if you feel you are going to be late, unforeseen circumstances do happen! It is also important to inform the office of anyone different who is collecting your child who is not on your child's 'collection list'. I will not be able to release your child until this has been confirmed.

School Dinners

It is helpful for your child to know the dinner choices before coming to school and I encourage parents to go through the dinner menus each week. This also helps the flow of the dinner register each day in the classroom! If you need a paper copy of the menu, please see the office where you will be able to collect one.

Reading

Children will read twice weekly where possible, with an adult in school and will have daily 'whole class' reading sessions which we call Guided Reading. Children will read their reading books to our lovely reading volunteers, Mrs Pargeter and myself when possible. Your child's reading record book will have the days where they will read to a reading volunteer. We do remind parents that if you have listened to your child read, please do comment in their reading record book so we are able to move your child on to the next book. We encourage your child to read at home daily for enjoyment and to re-enforce their reading skills for your child to grow in confidence. Books are chosen carefully to match your child's decoding skills and phonic recognition. We will also comment in their record book if there are parts of a text your child will need more



support in. Please encourage your child to remember their reading book and record book on the day that they read in school. This information will be found in their Reading Record Book. We aim to get reading books started by Friday 15th September.

Word Lists and Flashcards

Some children will continue with these from Reception – these are high frequency words or sometime called 'sight words'. These words form part of the 100 high frequency words Year One children are expected to read by sight. Some children will also be taking home words or sounds to recognise linked to the Phonics they are learning in school. Children will need to practise reading the words/sounds with their family. Once we feel a child is confident in these words, they will have some more words to go home with. We will begin to send these words home over the first half of the autumn term.

Homework & Spellings

Children in Year One will take home reading books, word cards (phonics), number bonds activities and occasional other subjects tasks. At the beginning of Autumn Term Two, once your child has settled into Year 1, we will start to send spelling words home each week. The children will also practise the words in school, and then bring home a sheet to practise. Spelling tests will be held on a Friday, marked, and sent home so you can see your child's achievement. Please do make sure they record all their homework in pencil. Maths homework starts in the Spring Term.



Behaviour

Our school expectation is 'Kind, Safe, Best'. We encourage children to make 'good choices' at all times and we have our classroom expectations we follow to help us be 'Kind, Safe, Best'. We praise and encourage children who are doing this, verbally, with awarding golden tickets and stickers, and by staying on the 'Green' part of our Kind, Safe, Best chart each day. However, on the occasions when this does not happen, we will give the child a verbal reminder of the expected behaviour. If they continue to display the unwanted behaviour, we will talk to the child after the learning time and discuss what they could do next time – this will may mean moving to the 'Yellow', 'Orange' or in extreme cases 'Red'. Please see our school Behaviour Policy for more information.



Water Bottles

In Year One, children bring their water bottles into school each day and go home with them so they can be washed out and filled with fresh water. Please make sure their name is on it and their bottle for the classroom must be filled with water only.



Book Bags

Your child needs to bring a school book bag with them every day as they have their own drawer in which to store it in. In Year One, your child is responsible for putting letters, homework, reading books, etc. into their book bags. We do encourage that children in Year One use a **school book bag** for this reason. Larger bags that need to be put on their peg take up a lot of space in our **very small** cloakroom area in the corridor and important letters and homework are often left in their drawer and not taken home! I have also asked the children to keep any keyrings and other decorations attached to the handle of book bags to one small keyring only so that there is room to put it in the drawer.



Show & Tell

Year One do love bringing in things from home to share with the rest of the class! If your child would like to bring in something related to our learning, we encourage this, and it can be kept in our 'project' area for children to view. If your child has other special items that they would like to talk about, or if they have some special news to share, then we will have some dedicated time for this on Friday afternoon. I would encourage any belongings or special things that your child would like to share to only be brought in on the Friday morning.



Forest School

We are planning to continue Forest School in Year One in a couple of weeks. A letter detailing this will be sent out for when this will start. We are envisaging that this will be on a Friday afternoon. As in Reception, the whole class will go to Forest School altogether and will bring their Forest Kit in a bag to get changed into.

P.E.

Year One PE sessions will be on **TUESDAY** and **THURSDAY**. We are continuing to have the use of our MoveMore PE specialist, Mr Hemmings who the children had last year and are very familiar with. Please ensure your child comes to school on PE days dressed in their full PE kit. This includes **NAMED** house t-shirt, black or navy shorts (or joggers in the winter), socks, pumps and school jumper.



School Uniform

Please make sure your child's jumper, cardigan and coat is named (and even hats, gloves, scarves in winter!). There is always an ongoing problem with children losing jumpers and cardigans, so it helps hugely if the items are named. Also please regularly check that the name is still visible as markers do tend to fade in the wash and sticky name labels can fall off. Children with long hair need to have their hair tied back in school especially on PE and Forest School Days and jewellery is not to be worn in school – this is part of our uniform policy.

Volunteer Helpers

We are always grateful for any adults who would like to come into class and help, whether it be grandparents, parents or friends of the school. It is a fantastic way to keep in touch with your child's learning and children are very proud to have their family members help in school! If you are able to give up your time (whether it be an hour, a morning, a one-off occasion or helping walk the children to special events) then please let Mrs Evans know. We would be very grateful.

If you would like to help in school on a regular basis, you will need to complete a DBS Police Check form which are available in the office.

