

Otterbourne Church of England Primary School

Main Road, Otterbourne, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2EQ

Telephone: 01962 712020 www.otterbourneprimaryschool.com

Headteacher: Martin Geraghty



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1 Squirrel Class! It has been lovely getting to know the children and to see them settle in to their new building and routines so well.

The Year 1 teaching team consists of:

Class Teacher: Mrs Smith

Class LSA: Mrs Pamphlett

On a Thursday afternoon (PPA Cover) the class will be taught by Mrs Bertacchini who is a HLTA and is well known to the children. In the year group, our children are also supported by Mrs Armstrong, Mr Kwiatek and Mrs Sprack.

Year 1 Meet the Teacher Session

We would like to invite all Year 1 parents to meet their class teacher on Thursday 18th September at pick up time (3:30pm to 4pm). I'll be there to say hello and answer any questions you may have about the year ahead and our phased approach to the Year 1 National Curriculum.

Phonics

We will be revising phase 3 and 4 phonics over the next couple of weeks. After that we will continue to use Bug Club and start phase 5 phonics. Each week, we will be sending home the sounds and tricky words for the children to practise – every minute spent on phonics will make a big difference to the children's reading ability. Please let me know if you would like more support with this.

Spellings

We will be sending home spellings next week for the children to practise at home. Our spelling 'quiz' will be on a Wednesday morning. The spellings will be emailed to you on a Wednesday, as well as coming home on a spelling sheet for your child to practise. Daily practise for just a few minutes is proven to be far more effective than a single, long 'cramming' session!



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Reading

The children will start reading in their guided reading groups next week. They will be bringing home one book a week on a Friday as well as having access to online Bug Club books. Please listen to your child read daily, it really does make a difference to their confidence as well as having a positive impact on their writing. The children will be given a reading diary for you to note down when they have read, and for any comments you would like to make. The more they read, the more housepoints they get! **Please keep reading books and diaries in their book bag at all times** as the children will read with an adult on different days in school.

Maths

Maths will be taught 5 mornings a week through practical lessons and activities.

PE Kits

The children in Year 1 will be taking part in PE twice a week. We will have R&R coaching (for games) on a Thursday afternoon and PE with the class teacher on a Friday morning. Please send your child in to school dressed for outside PE on a Thursday; there is no need for them to bring in their uniform. We will also incorporate active phonics into this session to consolidate the sounds or words we have learnt that week.

Children are expected to have their PE kits at school at all times in the event of timetable changes. In accordance with the updated PE Kit policy, children are allowed to wear a PLAIN coloured T-shirt in the same colour as their house OR a plain white T shirt, and they should wear black or dark coloured shorts. They will not need trainers for PE on a Friday, and hair must be tied up.

Drink Bottles

Please ensure your child has a bottle filled with water every day, and that this is named.

Teacher Contact

I am available to talk to on the playground at the start of the day from 8.45am to 8.55am.

Curriculum Overview

Please see the attached overview, which gives you more information about what the children will be learning this term.

Kind regards

Mrs Smith

