Dear parents/carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to the spring term.

We have had a fantastic start to Year 1 and look forward to continue working with the children this new term. Now that the children have settled into the routines of being in year 1 we will be looking to attend educational visits and extend our learning through projects.

Similar to the autumn term, we will continue to have our core learning subjects in the morning followed by other subjects in the afternoon. Please see the attached timetable which shows the structure of each day. Please note that PE has been changed to **Wednesdays** this term.

Children will be taught the following subjects:

**English**
Each day the children will be learning new skills in English; including spelling, grammar and writing. We use a different fiction or non-fiction book every few weeks as a focus to plan engaging lessons which will enable the children to learn these new skills.

**Reading**

The children will have a daily supported reading session four days a week. Each morning support staff from around the school will come to Year 1 to read with a small group of children.

The children will also bring home a set of reading books each week. They will choose two books from the level they are currently reading at; these books will have a coloured tab on them and your child will be able to read these books to you. They will also choose two books from our class book corner which they can read with you or an older sibling. Please enjoy reading these books with your child for 10-15 minutes each day as this greatly helps in the development of their reading skills.

**Phonics**

Phonics is an important part of the Year 1 curriculum. In phonics, children learn the sounds of different groups of letters. We call the groups of letters ‘graphemes’ (eg. **th ing sh**) and the sound that these letters make are called ‘phonemes’. Your child will become familiar with this terminology. Our phonics lessons support children with their early reading skills. At the end of Year 1 all children will take part in national phonics testing, which involves each child reading a set of 40 words containing a range of the phonemes they have learnt.

**Maths**

In maths we follow a programme called ‘Maths Mastery’. This term the children will be completing the following 6 units of work: **Exploring Calculation Strategies within 20, Numbers to 50, Adding and Subtracting within 50, Fractions, Measures and Numbers 50-100.**

**Science**

We cover several topics throughout the year and within these the children will be learning the key scientific skills and methods of; asking questions, observing closely, performing simple tests, identifying and classifying, and gathering and recording data. The four main areas of Science covered are: Seasonal Changes, Animals Including Humans, Everyday Materials and Plants. This term we will learn about Winter and Everyday Materials.

**Topic**

In our topic lessons the children will be learning about geography, history, art and design through a range of different topics, such as toys, our local area, famous nurses, our country and great explorers.

**RE**

The children have regular RE lessons, along with assembly’s and class worship, dedicated to teaching the children about Christianity and other religions.

**Spanish**

Our Spanish teacher Lydia will be visiting the children once a week to teach them basic Spanish, such as the days of the week, colours and simple phrases.

**PE**

PE is taught by the PE coaches. Please ensure that your child has their full PE kit with them every **Wednesday.** The PE kit should include; a white t-shirt, blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and black plimsolls (we prefer these to be with Velcro rather than laces).

Please see the attached curriculum map to see what your child will be learning in each of these subjects this term.

Kind regards,

Nar Raeewal