



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 1 – Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term 1

Welcome to Year 1! I am really looking forward to working with your children, in partnership with you, to ensure that they have a very happy and successful year.

I have already met lots of the Year 1 parents since the start of term, but please do come and say 'hello' if I haven't seen you yet! I am looking forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks.


The purpose of this curriculum letter is to give you some useful information about the topics, routines and expectations of our class, which I hope you will find both informative and helpful in assisting your child during their first term in Year 1. A copy of this term's jigsaw sheet, which gives you an overview of the areas of learning and curriculum content that the children will be studying this term, can be found on our school website: www.jys.org.uk.

Morning Routines and the Year 1 Outside Classroom

As you may be aware, the outdoor area by the Key Stage 1 entrance door is used as the Year 1 Outside Classroom. The space is an extension to our classroom and we will sometimes need to set up various learning equipment and resources in the Outside Classroom before the start of the school day, so that it can be ready for the children to use as soon as the register is taken. Therefore, if you are waiting for the Key Stage 1 doors to open in the morning, we would be extremely grateful if you could refrain from letting your child/children enter the area. Many thanks.

I have been very impressed with how the children are taking responsibility for sorting out their belongings with parents in the Year 1 corridor and how they have been coming into the classroom by themselves! This is an important step forwards in encouraging the development of their independence and organisational skills. Thank you for your support with this.

Reminders:

- **School reading books** will be taken home on a regular basis. Each child has a plastic zippy wallet in which to store their books inside their school bag, in order to protect the books from water bottle spillages and getting accidentally bent or torn. Please encourage your child to put their purple reading comments book and reading book back in the plastic wallet each night so that they are available during the school day. Reading at home is essential; daily if possible. We encourage the children to visit the library and to read other books at home, as well as those from the school reading scheme. This could include fiction and non-fiction books, children's newspapers, joke books and magazines/comics. In fact, the wider the range of genres that your child reads, the better! Reading with your child regularly, and discussing books with them, will not only help them to develop their fluency and comprehension skills but will also help them to foster a real love of reading. 
- **Home Learning activities** will be set on a Friday, to be returned by the following Wednesday please. These will be given out in a clear plastic wallet with the task sheet inside.



- Talk about the different parts of a plant (e.g. stem, leaf, flowers). Can your child name any of the different plants and trees that they see regularly?
- If possible, plant some vegetables or bulbs together at home and watch them grow!

Finally . . .

If you have a particular area of interest that relates to our topic this half term or if you know someone who might, then please contact me as I would welcome visitors to the class to talk to the children.

I look forward to getting to know your child over the coming weeks and I hope that they will gain many rich learning experiences throughout the busy and exciting year ahead. If you have any questions as the term progresses, or would like to discuss anything with me, please come in and see me at the end of the school day, or telephone the office to make an appointment if it is more convenient.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Neville