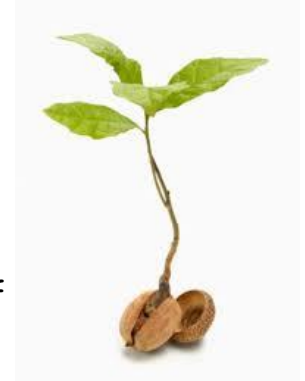


Seedlings Curriculum Letter - Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parents

It's so wonderful to welcome you all back to school for a new start in Year 1. I hope you feel your child has settled into the routines of school life and I'm thrilled to have the privilege to teach them again this year.



The Transition Booklet, given out at the end of last year, detailed how the curriculum will change now your child has left the Foundation Stage of school. Through this term we will transition gently to ensure your child moves happily into a more formal way of learning. If you'd like another copy please ask.

Our days will generally focus on literacy (phonics/spelling/handwriting/reading), maths and 'topic' with a daily assembly. Alongside these subjects RE, PE and ICT will be taught discretely. Our topics throughout the year are designed to ensure we cover all the necessary skills and knowledge set out in the National Curriculum. Within this broad area of learning things like geography, history, science, art, DT, and music will be included.

We have started the term with a short mini-topic **Who Am I?** to help us all recognise our unique qualities whilst understanding that we fit into a wider community. This will be followed by **The Big Build** where we will take the story of The Three Little Pigs as a basis for our learning. After half term the topic is **Celebrations** which will lead very nicely to the Nativity Play and Christmas.

Reading, Speaking & Listening will continue to be a major part of our day - changing our daily home reading book, a daily shared whole-class book, regular library visits and high quality texts supporting the delivery of the topics. Please continue to read daily at home with your child every day. It really does make a difference in their vocabulary, decoding skills and ability to understand what they're reading. Once they have learnt to read then they can read to learn.

Alongside the daily reading homework, children in Year 1 are also expected to learn times tables and complete a homework that supports the times table focus for that week. The times table booklet is in your child's bag. On Fridays we will have a quiz and your child's score will be noted for you to celebrate at home. On Monday a new homework sheet will be sent home. Homework needs to be handed in on Friday.

Although our day begins at 8.55am, the school is open from 8.40am and I would urge you to try and bring your child in time to enjoy this 15 minutes. Our timetable starts promptly and children need time to arrive, sign in, change their books and enjoy some free choice in the classroom without being rushed. On Thursdays Wake & Shake club in the hall from 8.40am is hugely popular - no need to sign up for this.

Finally, I would dearly love to welcome more parents or grandparents onto our Volunteer rota. Most volunteering slots are in the afternoons and generally volunteers will read with individual children within the classroom environment. If you're worried about being in the classroom with your own child, there are always other classes looking for adults to hear readers. If you're interested, please let me know and I can arrange for the appropriate DBS forms and an induction.

Our Open Classroom continues to be on a Friday and I look forward to welcoming you. On a social note, the Seedlings MacMillan Coffee Morning will be held in the hall on Thursday 26 September at 9am.

I'm very excited to be continuing with your child on their journey through Chacewater School and hope we can work together to ensure they have the best possible learning experience.

Mrs Rice
Class Teacher

