

25th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are really pleased to write that the children have settled in very well and we are looking forward to a fantastic year. We wanted to write with some further information about the structure of the year and some key information for you.

Year 1 Structure

In Year 1, the children will have the opportunity to learn through play and exploration. As in reception, our Year 1 classrooms are organised to promote and develop continuous provision. This continuous provision enables children to return to their explorations and consolidate their learning over the course of a day or a more extended period. It also allows children to make choices and initiate play independently linked to their areas of interest. Every day, the children will get the opportunity to be an artist, writer, mathematician, scientist, designer or a storyteller to name but a few! These play-based experiences enable the children to consolidate their skills, knowledge and understanding and enable them to become independent and resilient learners. Throughout the environment, both inside and outside, the children can engage in a wide range of activities that they themselves have chosen. Continuous provision supports and encourages our children and staff to have a lifelong love of learning. During continuous provision, adults within the classroom will co-play alongside your child, developing and progressing their English and maths skills linked to their current targets.

Due to the children having the opportunity to free flow between their classroom and the outside area, it is essential that they have suitable clothing to wear as we understand that children benefit from outside learning whatever the weather. Therefore, all children **must bring a waterproof coat** to school with them every day to ensure they can access the outside area, even if it is raining.

Reading Books

Your child will bring home either 2 or 3 reading books every week.

- A free book chosen by your child from the library
- A banded book selected according to your child's reading level
- A phonics book that your child will bring home on a Wednesday

Please see the sticker in the children's white planners which will outline how many books your child will have.

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Kings' Forest Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mr R Newman

Headteacher: Ms H Porter

If your child receives a phonics book, this will be sent home with your child every Wednesday and will need to be **returned to school on the following Monday morning**. They will also bring a phonics sound sheet every time they are taught a new sound to practise each day.

We ask that you please write in your child's reading record (white book) when they have read to you. Please try and listen to your child read as much as possible. We expect them to read to an adult at least three times a week at home. It is really important for the children to share their love of reading with you and we hope you enjoy this time with your child.

Welly Request

Within our outside area, the children have access to a mud kitchen and water zones. However, as the children are transporting mud and water between areas, we have found that children are stepping in the mud or spilling water and therefore their shoes are getting dirty and wet! We therefore ask that if your child has a pair of wellies that could be kept in school, please could they bring them in as this will reduce any mess and damage to the children's new school shoes. Wellies will also be useful when your child goes to Forest School (Rabbit – Term 1, Mouse – Term 2). Due to the weather becoming wetter, if you would like to provide waterproof clothing/old clothes for your child to wear during Forest School, this will reduce children coming home muddy in their uniforms.

If you have any questions or queries about the information above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Mrs Reid and Mrs Jarman-Davis