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LANGTOFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

September 2017

# Welcome to Year One

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to you all. We hope that you had a great summer and join us in looking forward to the many new and exciting experiences that Year One will bring! This letter seeks to answer any questions that you may have about the transition into Y1 and explain any changes that will take place.

## The Curriculum

As the children enter Key Stage 1, they begin working towards achieving National Curriculum objectives. Their progress towards these objectives will be discussed with you at parent consultations and reported at the end of the school year. You can read about and view the National Curriculum [here](#). As in the Foundation Stage, learning is mainly topic based and the children are active participants in deciding what they would like to find out about.

## The School Day

We aim to make the transition into Y1 as smooth as possible, therefore, for the first termlet, the structure of the school day will be very similar to that which the children are used to in the Foundation Stage - with plenty of opportunity to 'learn through play'. As the year progresses, this will gradually formalise so that the children are 'working' for longer periods of time.

The Y1 classroom has been organised to mirror the learning environment the children are used to. We have many of the zones, resources and opportunities that were so loved in the Foundation Stage - construction, role-play, mark making, messy play, outdoor learning and more!

## Home Reading Books

During the first week of term we have been assessing your child's current reading level and will issue them with a home practice book. Please read with your child as often as possible – a little each day is best, as practise, practise, practise really is the key to successful and confident reading. **Please ensure that both reading record and reading book are in your child's book bag each day and that their current page number is recorded in their reading record**, with a comment if you wish.

Your child is invited to change their reading book as often as they wish **once they have reached the end of the book and this has been recorded in their reading record**. They should place their reading record and finished book in the book basket in the classroom for Mrs Falco to change. For each completed book your child will receive a ticket into a weekly 'reading raffle' to win a small prize.

At the back of your child's reading record you will find a chart listing all of the books in their current reading stage. Mrs Falco will tick this off as your child works through them. We teach and hear your child read daily at school during their *Read Write Inc* lessons and will endeavour to assess the continuing suitability of your child's practice books as often as possible. If you feel the books have become too easy or indeed are a bit tricky, please let us know and we will double check.

## Spelling

In your child's book bag, you will find a purple folder with a letter detailing the two types of spelling activities that take place in Y1.

## Show and Tell

Show and Tell will take place on a Friday afternoon. Each group has been designated a slot. This term your child is invited to bring in something to share with their class related to **a place they have visited within the UK**, either locally or further afield. They are encouraged to prepare what they wish to say beforehand as they will have one minute to talk about their chosen subject and then three questions from the 'audience'. Here are some questions to help them prepare.

1. Where did you visit? (You could perhaps help them to mark it on a map of the UK)
2. How did you travel there?
3. What did you see around you? (We are learning about man-made features (buildings, dams, shops) and natural features (seas, rivers, lakes, mountains))
4. What was the best bit of your trip?

Please see the chart for your child's Show and Tell day.

Group	Show and Tell Date
London	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September
Cardiff	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September
Edinburgh	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October
Belfast	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October
Dublin	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October

## Learning Logs

Each fortnight your child will bring home their Learning Log. In it you will find two activities for your child to complete relating to their learning at school in Mathematics and English/Topic work. This is a great way for you to work together with your child and find out about the things they are learning at school. At the front of the Log there is a letter detailing all the information you will need to get started.

## How can you help?

In addition to reading with your child as often as possible and practising spellings, you can contribute to your child's time in Y1 in a myriad of different ways;

- Signing up for this year's playdough rota. (Please sign up on sheet attached to classroom window.)
- Volunteering to come and help in the classroom. Please do come and catch us if you are interested. We would love to have you and are very willing to organise activities for you to do with the children that suit any interests or skills you may have. Even if you just have half an hour spare before school pick up to hear a few readers....
- Volunteering to come along on any school trips – watch this space, we already have a few things in the pipeline!
- Collecting bits and pieces that we can use for natural and Autumnal activities, particularly acorns, conkers, shells, pebbles...

We hope that you feel reassured about your child's transition into Key Stage 1. We are always here to answer any questions or concerns. Please do feel free to catch us at any time!

Yours faithfully

**Mrs E Vere and Mrs D Wogan**  
**Classteachers**