



# Welcome to Year 1 Danegrove School



Welcome back to a brand new year! We hope that everyone had a fantastic summer. It is lovely to see all the children looking so smart and ready to learn. We are truly proud of them all and are inspired by how they have settled back into school life.

Here is our autumn term newsletter to inform you of what we will be doing in class, important dates and other helpful information about Year 1.

## Year 1 classes and staff

1H - Mrs Ioannou (Year Group Leader) and Mrs Henderson (on a Thursday)

1SG - Mrs Giovanelli

1EB - Miss Blane

## Key dates:

Harvest Week - W/B Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September

Celebrate our Differences Week - W/B Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Parent Teacher Meetings for Year 1 - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October

Half Term - 25<sup>th</sup> October to 29<sup>th</sup> October

INSET DAY - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November (school closed).

Christmas Lunch - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Last day of term - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

We return for the Spring term on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

## Year 1 aim

- We aim to grow lively and enquiring minds believing children should always find learning worthwhile, challenging and fun!
- Children leave Year 1 as happy, independent learners who are ready to take on the challenge of Year 2.

### Our expectations

- We have high expectations and high aspirations for all children.
- We believe that our children can all be successful through hard work, determination and a positive attitude.
- We work tirelessly to ensure our children are given knowledge and skills so they are able to reach their full potential.
- We have a focus on core skills. We ensure our children experience their learning in a variety of styles and use ongoing assessment to identify areas they need to revise or revisit.
- We aim to keep the children focused, whilst still enjoying school.

**Mental well-being** - We will enable a positive transition back to school after the summer holidays, supporting children with their mental health so that they will feel confident and happy. Also, we will help the children to develop a sense of belonging and enjoyment and ensure that they are able to re-kindle friendships.

### School Uniform:

- Black school shoes – No boots or trainers
- Hair accessories must be uniform coloured (navy or white)
- No jewellery e.g. bracelets, necklaces (except under religious beliefs e.g. Kara bracelet - Sikhism)
- No leggings only school trousers or skirt/pinafore and tights

### Autumn term in Year 1

#### Phonics

Phonics plays a large part in year 1 and there is an ongoing phonics focus in all lessons. Children also have daily phonics lessons. At the end of year 1 all children are required to take part in a phonics screening check. In this they practice reading real and nonsense words using all the phonics they have learnt. There is no

pressure on children and all children build their phonics skills at their own pace with support.

## Reading

Reading is the gateway to all areas of school and remains a top priority in year 1.

Children will read in school every day and we will continue to teach phonics until we feel children are secure. This will then become support for spelling where we teach spelling rules.

Every day we have reading sessions and this includes Destination Reader.

We introduce comprehension and questioning skills which are used throughout the curriculum.

We are committed to developing a love of reading for children and have story time each day with books and poems we love.

Important! Your child will be bringing home their own reading book (some will have sounds to learn initially) and library book. It is essential that the books are brought into school every day as teachers will take every opportunity to read with your child throughout the week. The texts are designed to be read in depth, which means they are only changed when all teaching strategies have been explored. This will usually be weekly.

Your child will have:

- A reading book
- A reading record
- A library book.

Please write a short comment in the reading record book when you have read at home. We really do like to read them!

## **BOOK AMNESTY!**

If you have any school books at home from previous years please bring them into school. No questions asked!



## English

Grammar skills are taught at the beginning of every English lesson. Weekly writing is usually focused on a high quality text or linked to the topic. We use a range of strategies to engage children in writing including drama, talk for writing and the power

of pictures. Please see below for the Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words (these are words children in year 1 should be able to accurately **spell** and **read** fluently) and the cursive lower case letters. Practising these regularly at home will better support your child to develop.

Cursive Lower Case Letters



Letter-join  joined-up handwriting made easy - [www.letterjoin.co.uk](http://www.letterjoin.co.uk)

Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words															
Year 1								Year 2							
the	they	one	door	gold	plant	clothes		door	gold	plant	clothes				
a	be	once	floor	hold	path	busy		floor	hold	path	busy				
do	he	ask	poor	told	bath	people		poor	told	bath	people				
to	me	friend	because	every	hour	water		because	every	hour	water				
today	she	school	find	great	move	again		find	great	move	again				
of	we	put	kind	break	prove	half		kind	break	prove	half				
said	no	push	mind	steak	improve	money		mind	steak	improve	money				
says	go	pull	behind	pretty	sure	Mr		behind	pretty	sure	Mr				
are	so	full	child	beautiful	sugar	Mrs		child	beautiful	sugar	Mrs				
were	by	house	children	after	eye	parents		children	after	eye	parents				
was	my	our	wild	fast	could	Christmas		wild	fast	could	Christmas				
is	here		climb	last	should	everybody		climb	last	should	everybody				
his	there		most	past	would	even		most	past	would	even				
has	where		only	father	who			only	father	who					
I	love		both	class	whole			both	class	whole					
you	come		old	grass	any			old	grass	any					
your	some		cold	pass	many			cold	pass	many					

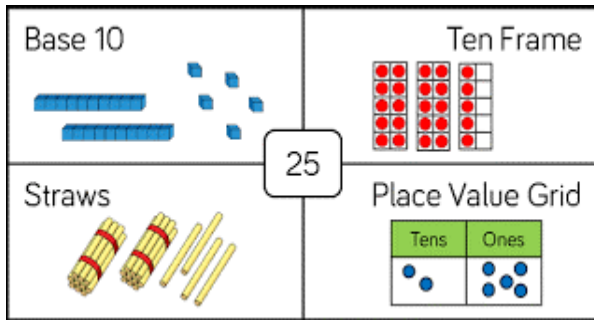
Children will have spellings each week and we would like the children to spend time learning these throughout each week so that they will be able to apply these in their writing.

## Maths

Children are taught skills progressively and the scheme promotes an enquiry based approach which helps our children build key mathematical skills such as investigation, problem solving and reasoning.

### Key skills to practice - Autumn term

- Counting accurately
- Writing numbers correctly
- Finding 1 or 2 more and less of a given number
- Addition
- Subtraction
- Strategies for adding more and adding together
- Representing numbers in different ways



Children are to come into school in their PE kits on their PE days. The PE kit consists of:

- plain white tshirt (with logo if possible)
- plain navy shorts or leggings or joggers
- trainers (appropriate for sport) or black plimsolls
- Danegrove jumper or cardigan or fleece

No earrings during P.E. – you must take them out at home before school or they will be covered with masking tape in school.

P.E days

11H - Monday and Tuesday

1EB - Monday and Wednesday

1SG - Monday and Thursday



Homework is set on a Friday and should be handed in on the following Wednesday. Homework is recorded in the children's homework book and a photo of their homework is uploaded onto Seesaw. Please do not send in their homework books. They stay at home.

Homework consists of either Maths, English or Integrated studies learning, alongside their weekly spellings and daily reading.

### How can parents help?

- The best help is by taking an interest in your child's learning and giving lots of positive encouragement.
- Attending all meetings and parents evenings.
- Supporting by engaging with homework.
- Accessing websites: BBC Bitesize, Bug Club, Mathletics, Phonics Play.
- Not putting children under too much pressure.
- Ensuring children arrive for school:
  - In good time to start the day (Gates open at 8.50am and classroom doors will open just before 9:00am)
  - Having had breakfast
  - Having gone to bed at a reasonable time!
  - With a full P.E. kit, book bag (with reading book) and labelled water bottle.

*The end of the day is now 3:10pm. Please collect children on-time.*



WE WOULD LOVE TO INVITE YOU INTO SCHOOL TO HEAR CHILDREN READ. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR CHILDS CLASS TEACHER OR MRS IOANNOU. ANY DAY OR TIME WOULD BE AMAZING EVEN IF YOU CAN ONLY SPARE A LITTLE TIME!

Many thanks for reading this term's newsletter; we hope to have a fantastic term, where the children will be happy, confident and working hard.

Please remember if you have any concerns or queries, feel free to speak to your class teacher by sending a note on Seesaw for them to read. Mrs Ioannou is also available after school if there is anything you would like to discuss further

Yours sincerely,

Year 1 Team

