



Year 1 Newsletter Autumn Term

Believe, Achieve, Soar with Pride

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A very warm welcome back to Dean Bank and to Year 1! We hope you all had a wonderful summer. The children have settled in well and look very smart in their school uniforms.

We have a busy half-term ahead of us and I will try to keep you updated as best as I can but if in doubt always check our website or Facebook page for information as well as to check out all the fantastic stuff we will most certainly be getting up to! All key dates will also be sent home on our fortnightly school newsletter. If, however, you have any questions or queries in the meantime, please come and see me!

Mornings and Home times

You may have noticed that the entrance area at the green doors is extremely tight! Could we therefore ask that you say your goodbyes in the line and allow your child to come in and hang their coat on their pegs independently on a morning. There is always at least one adult on hand should your child need support, and we encourage independence where possible in school.



At the end of the day, the children will be lead in a line down to the bottom of the yard and will be handed over to a parent/ guardian. As I am still learning names to faces, the children will be taught not to leave the line unless they have spoken to and pointed out their parent/ guardian so we ask that you do not take your child out of the line until they have spoken to the designated adult at the front of the line. May we also politely remind you to inform us of any changes to dropping off and picking up arrangements. This can be done in person on the yard, ringing the school or a message on class dojo. Your child's safety is of paramount importance to us and we can only allow children to go with persons we have been informed of.

P.E.

This term, the children will be doing P.E. on a **Monday** and **Thursday**. Please could you make sure your child has the correct kit on these days and that all items are named. We occasionally have items getting mixed up and we can get clothes back to their rightful owner so much more easily when named! Could we also ask that children with pierced ears have earrings removed on these days if they cannot remove them themselves, and that long hair is tied back for safety reasons.



Homework

We will be sending Home Learning Tasks home on a **Friday** to be handed in the following **Friday**. These will be based on maths and spelling to support your child's learning in class. Your help and support with these is much appreciated. Class dojo points are handed out for completed homework handed in on time.



All children will be sent home a school reading book each week. Could we please ask that you listen to your child read as often as possible, and make a comment in their Reading Diary **at least three times a week**. We really do value your support and your comments are most helpful to us when gauging reading levels. Class Dojo points will be awarded for each time your child reads at home.

Book Bags and reading records



Book bags are going to be used to transport children's homework, letters and other items that your child needs to take backwards and forwards from home to school. Just a reminder to parents and children that book bags and reading records should be brought into school **every day** so that children can read their book in school with an adult.

Toys

Just a quick reminder that toys or personal belongings **should not** be brought into school in case they get lost or damaged. Thank you for your support with this.



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Class dojo



We will be using Class Dojo this year to encourage certain skills such as good listening, being kind, working hard and participating. The children can then save up all these green dojo points and spend them at our Dojo Store so the more points they earn, the bigger prizes they can buy. I will also use it to communicate with you so I will be sending home a sheet for you to link up with your child's account so you can see how they are getting on in school.

What we are learning!

The children will continue to follow 'Letters and Sounds' Scheme to help them develop their phonic skills. This first half-term, our focus in English will be sentence writing. We shall be trying to embed those essential basic skills to enable us to build upon them as the weeks progress. The children will also have a daily handwriting focus, aiming at forming all our letters correctly so that we are ready to begin making our first joins!

In maths, the children will learn; Number and Place value to 10 moving onto 20 when confident, Addition and subtraction working within numbers to 10 and 2D and 3D shapes.

We be learning lots of other exciting things this term across our foundation subjects such as animals including humans in science, My School in geography, me and my history in history, self-portraits in art, mechanisms and moving vehicles in DT and what we can learn from visiting a church in RE.



Should you wish to offer your child further support at home, you may find the following websites useful for activities and games.

www.letters-and-sound.com On the left hand side of the home page, you will find games within the various phases.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk Please don't feel you need to subscribe, there are plenty of free games to play.

www.ictgames.com

www.crickweb.co.uk/Key-Stage-1.html

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

www.topmarks.co.uk

We have loved meeting your children properly and are excited about our journey through Year 1 with them. We hope to have covered some of the things you may have been wondering about, but if you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. We thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hay and Mrs Chisholm