

## Welcome to Year One!

My name is **Miss Kemp** and I am very excited to be working with you and your child from September. My class will be known as **1K**. The children will continue to develop their skills in the seven areas taught in Reception in new and exciting ways by following the National Curriculum. Most afternoon sessions will be continuous provision and be split between indoor and outdoor activities linked to our topics.

Please check Dojo for any updates, news or information.



### Open door policy

At William Read, we operate an open door policy. Teachers will be on the door for any messages that you need to relay. The children's entrance will open at 8:30am for 15 minutes and the children will leave at 3:15pm each day from the same double doors. On Fridays school finishes at 2pm. We operate an afternoon club that will run from 2pm - 3.15pm on a Friday only. If you wish to use this childcare facility, there is a charge of £2.00. After these times your child will need to go through the school office. Please inform us of any changes as to who is picking your child up from school. Children can only be picked up by named adults. However, please inform the class teacher if someone different is collecting your child. Don't forget Breakfast club is available before school, from 7.30am.

### Reading at Home

The children will be given a reading book to share with you at home. They will also be loaned a 'library' book and this is for you to read to them. Both books will be changed weekly. These changes may happen on any day so please ensure book bags are in school every day. If you have read with your child, then please write in their yellow reading record. We encourage children to read as much as they can and we recommend at least three reads per week. Anyone with three reads per week, in Year One, enters into a 'duck race' which means they could be a lucky prize winner!

The children will also be expected to begin to learn High Frequency words to support their reading, these will be sent home in a word book. We will look at these together in class at least once a week. Please try not to compare your child's level with others' as all children learn at a different rate.

### Topic

Our first topic in Year One is 'All About Me'. It's a really good opportunity for us to get to know the children and for them to tell us all about themselves and their likes and dislikes, celebrating how everyone is different.

### Medication

If your child requires medication (this includes inhalers), please ensure these are named and are taken to the school office.

### Packed lunches

Just to remind you we are a healthy school and we encourage children to eat a healthy lunch. Please be aware that fizzy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars are not allowed.

Please remember that the children **MUST NOT** bring in any food that contains nuts due to children and adults suffering from severe allergies.

Every child in Year One is offered a piece of fruit at break time and water throughout the day.

Please ensure the lunch bags and the pots inside are clearly named.

### PE

The children will have PE twice a week.

Our **outdoor** session is on **Wednesday** and the **indoor** session will be on **Monday**.

Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit on these days.

The PE kit should be:

Round neck t-shirt (red or white)

Black shorts/ jogging bottoms

Sensible footwear

Black jumper or jacket if required

The children do not need plimsolls at this stage.

Jewellery, including earrings should not be worn for PE.

Please note that we are not allowed to remove earrings or cover them with tape. Hair that is long enough to be tied back must be securely fastened due to health and safety.

## Homework

In Year 1, we encourage every child to read at least 3 times per week at home.

After October half term, every child is given weekly spellings to learn. We learn the spelling pattern in school but we also encourage children to practise their weekly spellings at home. This can be done on Spelling Shed. Weekly spellings are given out on a **Friday** and a spelling test is completed the following **Friday**.

## Spelling Shed and Purple Mash

Each child will have their own login for Spelling Shed and Purple Mash. We use these programmes in school and the children are also able to access them at home. This helps the children to practise their spelling and access their maths homework.

## Water Bottles and Book Bags

We ask that your child only brings in a book bag and **not a rucksack** or any other kind of bag as unfortunately they do not fit in their drawers or take up too much room on pegs. Please continue to use the book bag you were provided with in September last year.

**Can we please remind you that we need these in school daily for letters and reading.**

Please send your child in with a named water bottle and please ensure that this only contains water. This is additional to any bottle in their packed lunch bag.

## **Things to remember:**

- Book bags should come to school every day (not rucksacks)
- Read at home at least three times a week and record in yellow diary.
- All clothing should be **clearly labelled** - including hats and scarves.
- Earrings should only be studs and **should not** be worn on PE or forest school days.
- Please try your best to bring your child into school every day and on time. If you arrive after 8.45am the gate will be shut and your child will need to come in via the office.
- Please ensure your child has a coat with them in school due to the changes in weather.
- **No toys from home are allowed in school.**
- Please check your child's hair regularly as nits spread rapidly in school.

## **Dates**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026** - Year 1 children and the rest of the school start back for the new term.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2026** - European Day of Languages- children dress in red, white and blue.

## Year One highlights

- Go back in time with a British heroine!
- Off to the woods to find plants, trees and bugs.
- A chance to get up close and personal with some creepy crawlies!
- A day dedicated to a cute, fluffy black and white bird!
- All aboard the bus for a day of transport fun!

## Forest School

The children will continue with their forest school sessions throughout the year. Children will need wellies and old clothes for these sessions.

## Growth Mindset

In Year 1, we encourage the children to have a growth mindset and this is modelled to the children in every lesson by the adults. It is important for the children to be resilient and understand that we learn by our mistakes. We are continuing with the 'Characteristics of Effective Learning' characters that they should remember from Reception.