



We are starting our final term in year 1 and I am amazed at how fast the time is going! We hope to visit Raby Castle this term and we are also looking at shops, facilities and buildings in our local community. Phonics screening takes place shortly after half term and children are working hard with their reading of both real and "nonsense" words to develop phonic knowledge. A meeting about Phonics screening is scheduled for later this term and soon some practise materials will come home. Please make sure you practise the word cards as often as you can in order to continue to develop reading skills in preparation for the test.

Class One Newsletter

PE DAYS

PE is every Wednesday. Miss Cowley will continue to take Class 1 for PE and children will go outside when the weather permits so please make sure that children wear appropriate outdoor PE clothes, so that we can take full advantage of any finer days we hopefully enjoy during these



Reading books I will continue to send reading books home every day. Please can you ensure that your child has their book bag in school and books are returned each day. Thank you so much for those of you who support children at home. It really does make an incredible difference to their progress as well as developing a positive attitude to learning. Thank you.



Spellings

Please encourage your child to practise their spellings from the list. Spellings are taught during our focussed group work however, a little extra practice at home is always helpful.

Drinking water in school

We encourage children to bring a bottle of water to school, which they may drink in class. Plain water is best however, we understand that some children will not drink plain water so we are happy for them to bring weak juice. We must ask that children do not bring fizzy water or fizzy drinks. Hopefully the weather will improve and we will see some sunshine soon! Please can all children have a suitable hat in their bag each day and come to school with adequate sunscreen applied if / when we do get warmer sunshine. I would also ask that children continue to bring a coat to school. We can always leave it in the locker if not needed but useful to have when the weather changes.

EARRINGS

Children are allowed to wear one pair of small stud pierced earrings except for the days when they have PE or swimming. On these days we will be insisting that earrings must not be worn for school and they should be removed by the parent or child at home. Covering earrings with tape will no longer be permitted as it does not ensure safe participation in sports activities.

If parents wish for their child to have their ears pierced, then it is best to be done at the beginning of the 6 weeks holiday so that they can then be removed for PE at the beginning of the Autumn term.

Nail varnish, false nails, make up, hair dye or temporary tattoos must not be worn for school.

DIARY DATES

Mon 17 th April	Children back at school
Mon 1 st May	School closed - BANK HOLIDAY
Fri 5 th May	Celebration of the forthcoming coronation of King Charles III
Mon 8 th May	School closed - BANK HOLIDAY
22 nd - 26 th May	Year 2 SAT's to be completed 10.00am - Year 4 Open Worship in school 'Ascension & Pentecost'
Wed 24 th May	Last Day of Summer 1
Mon 5 th June	Back to school after the half term break
W/B 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks
Fri 16 th June	Diversity Well-Being Day
W/B 19 th June	Assessments week
W/B 26 th June	Assessment week in school
Thu 6 th July	Years 1-6 Sports day - 1.15pm
Tue 11 th July	'Moving up' day in school
Fri 14 th July	Reports out
Mon 17 th July	Nursery/Reception/Y1 & Y2 Parents Evening - 3.30pm to 6.00pm
Tue 18 th July	10.00am - Year 5 Open Worship - dedicated to Year 6 School breaks up for Summer Holidays
Fri 21 st July	Children return to school on Wed 6 th September 2023

Our topic for this term is **KNIGHTS AND PRINCESSES, DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS!** We will focus on local history throughout the term, looking at castles in the region, famous local figures and events throughout history such as , Bobby Shafto and the Battle of Nevilles Cross, and local legends such as The Lambton Worm. We will visit a local castle to find out what life was like living and working in a castle and its estate years ago, and Compare to our own homes and lives today. We will look closely at Willington and talk about our local environment, what we like about it and what we would like to change and consider how we can be a positive member of our local community and take care of the natural world. we are investigating Growing Things, Sound and Hearing, and Materials. We continue to look at seasonal changes and also how to look after ourselves, make healthy choices and ways in which we can keep our minds and bodies healthy, and happy.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Try to encourage your child to problem solve and think for themselves! Seek opportunities to consolidate mathematical understanding in everyday life. For example, by asking the children to read price labels or respond to questions such as "How many bananas will we need for everyone to have 2 in our house?" Supporting your child with their homework each week will give you an insight into what we've covered and also how you can extend this learning together at home.

Grateful thanks to all of you who do such an amazing job supporting children with their reading, their spellings and never fail to complete homework tasks. Your children are making great progress, Thank you.

If there is anything I can do to support you further, please just let me know. I am always, always happy to help.

Judith Bulmer