

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Year 1. The Year 1 team are really impressed with how well the children have settled into school life, particularly as some of them have not been to school for some time.

Please find below information regarding this year.

### PE

Our PE day this term is Thursday. We will be doing PE outside whatever the weather! Please can you send your child to school in PE kit suitable for being outside as per the school email sent 7<sup>th</sup> September. Can you also send your child with school uniform and shoes in a separate bag in case they need to get changed after PE. Please ensure that all uniform including coats is named.

### Reading

We will be collecting in reading books on a Friday to allow for the books to be quarantined over the weekend. Your child will then be able to choose 3 new reading books once a week on a Monday.

Please encourage your child to read their books more than once to improve fluency as research has shown that this will improve and increase their reading skills dramatically. As parents please ask questions to ensure understanding of the contents as well as general discussions regarding the book and illustrations. There is more information and example questions on the Infant School Year 1 website page. <https://www.crosswaysschools.co.uk/cis/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/03/Y1-How-to-help-your-child-read-booklet.pdf>

### Phonics

We will be teaching daily phonics lessons in class. You can support your child by spotting phonemes in their reading, when out and about and anywhere you see writing! There are free games and activities on phonics play, please concentrate on phase 2 and 3. <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> There is a national phonics check in June 2021, further details will be sent in due course.

### Days routine

The children wash their hands when entering and exiting the classroom and before eating food. They also sanitise their hands on a regular basis. We are playing outside within our year bubble and are staying in our class bubbles inside. The children are rediscovering daily routines in our new classes with their new teachers and consolidating their understanding and knowledge across all subjects with a large emphasis on their wellbeing.

### Ways to help your children

Read with your children as much as possible including books you have at home or online. Read to your children and enjoy stories together. Practice counting forwards and backwards up to 20 (or beyond!) Spot numbers in the environment, at shops, on number plates etc. Encourage your child to

practice writing. As they are unable to bring the writing in and share this please take a picture and email to the Year 1 address.

#### Getting in touch

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Year 1 email address [Year1@crossways.org.uk](mailto:Year1@crossways.org.uk) which is checked on a regular basis within school hours. If there is an urgent matter, please call the school office and we will endeavour to return your call as soon as possible.

Thanks for your support

The Year 1 team.