

## Top tips for Year 1 parents and carers!



- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 10-15 minutes four times a week is much better than a longer sessions once a week. We ask that children bring their reading book into school every day so that it can be changed if necessary and so that they can read with an adult.
- A big part of reading is talking about the book. Ask a variety of questions, such as 'Tell me what has happened so far? How is the character feeling? What do you think is going to happen next?' This will encourage your child to give their own opinions about events and characters in the book.
- Practise counting every day. By the end of Year 1, children should be able to count to and from 100 in steps of 1. They should also be able to count in 2's 5's and 10's.
- Ask your children about activities they have done at school and what they have been learning about. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Take an interest in their home learning tasks; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
- Encourage your child to become more independent when getting dressed and tying their shoe laces. This helps when getting ready for PE.
- Your child has recently been given flashcards to learn to read/spell at home. Please practise these often—it really does make a difference!

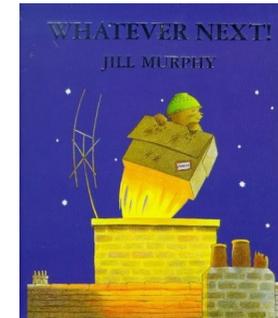
## Attendance and Punctuality



Please ensure your child is **on-time** for school every day. There is a staff member 'on duty', on the playground, from 8.45. Doors to classrooms open at 8.50. Good **attendance** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.

Grangetown Primary School ~ Enjoy - Respect - Achieve

# Year 1 Autumn 2



## Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the second part of Autumn term! We had a fantastic start in Year 1 and I am so proud of the children for how well they settled into the routines and day to day working in Year 1. I personally can't wait for this half term—we have some VERY special activities lined up!

We hope that by working together we can make this term a happy and very productive one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning. The children all worked so well last half term and tackled lots of challenges head on—let's do it again this half term!

Coming up this half term we will be having fun exploring '**Toys that time forgot**'. We will be looking at old and new toys in History, and our main focus will be teddy bears! In RE we will be learning about why Christmas matters to Christians and we will even be designing and making our own teddy bears in DT!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat (the best time is at 3.15 pm). We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

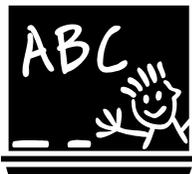
Yours sincerely

Miss Tose and Miss Nixon



*Please look inside...*

## Some Important Reminders...



**Start of the day.** We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The bell will ring at 8.50. Children who arrive late are missing out on important information and instructions for the day and miss the first part of our day and early bird activities.

**End of the day.** School finishes at 3.15pm. Year 1 children must be collected by an adult from the classroom door. Please inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.

**Uniforms and Coats.** We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please also label items of PE kit. It is important that children bring a coat to school everyday, especially now with Winter looming! Hats, scarves and gloves would be beneficial too!

**Reading.** Your child has a guided reading session twice a week with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult in class each week. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned everyday. A shared reading session at home is very valuable. Once you have read with your child, please leave a comment and a signature in their home link books.

**PE.** This term P.E. lessons will be on a **Wednesday afternoons.** Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit including a plain top, plain shorts and comfortable black plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back.

**Learning from home.** Tasks will be set on a Friday and is to be returned on a Thursday. Please encourage your child to complete and return homework as this is a chance for them to further develop skills which have been taught in class.

**Flashcards:** Your child has a set of flashcards which have been sent home to learn to read/spell. Please practise these as much as possible at home.

*Thank you for your continued support, it really makes a difference!*

### **This terms 'Learning Theme' (topic) Toys that time forgot**

I can 'bear'ly contain my excitement at the activities we have planned for this half term! Our main focus will be bears (real life and the toy variety!) and we will have a very special friend visiting us from the zoo who needs a loving home.

#### **English**

Using the book 'Whatever Next', we will be using our knowledge of adjectives from last half term and putting it into practise by describing the characters in the story. We will be retelling this story in the form of a short story, with a beginning, middle and end. Our focus will be making sure we include finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We will also be using the book 'How to make a jam sandwich' to write a set of instructions on how to make a honey sandwich for a bear!

#### **Maths**

This half term, we will be continuing to add and subtract numbers within 10. There will be a real focus on learning our number bonds to 10 which will help us when adding and subtracting other numbers! We will be learning how to write number sentences using addition, subtraction and equals signs. We will then move onto learning about 2D and 3D shapes—learning their names and their properties.

#### **Science**

We will be learning all about the human body in Science. We will be learning how to identify, name, draw and label basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with senses.

#### **Computing and Information & Communication Technology**

We will be learning about and creating our own digital art on computers and iPads using the iLearn2 website. We will be following pixel patterns to create artwork!

#### **Design Technology**

We will begin by exploring moving toys and their mechanisms—how do they move? We will then begin to design our own moving toy and will think about the appropriate materials we will need. By the end of the half term we will have made our own moving toy!

#### **History**

We will be learning about old and modern toys this half term, with a focus on teddy bears! We will compare old and modern toys thinking about the materials they are made from and if they require batteries/electricity to work.

#### **P.E.**

This half term, we will be learning new skills in Hockey. We will learn how to use a hockey stick with two hands and how to move the ball using a hockey stick!

#### **R.E.**

We will be learning all about why does Christmas matter to Christians. We will think about what advent is and how people show gratitude at Christmas. We will be visiting St Aidan's Church to take part in a retelling of the Nativity.

#### **Personal, Social, Health Education**

We will be focusing on similarities and differences between ourselves and our friends. We will take part in Anti-Bullying week where we will discuss how to be kind.