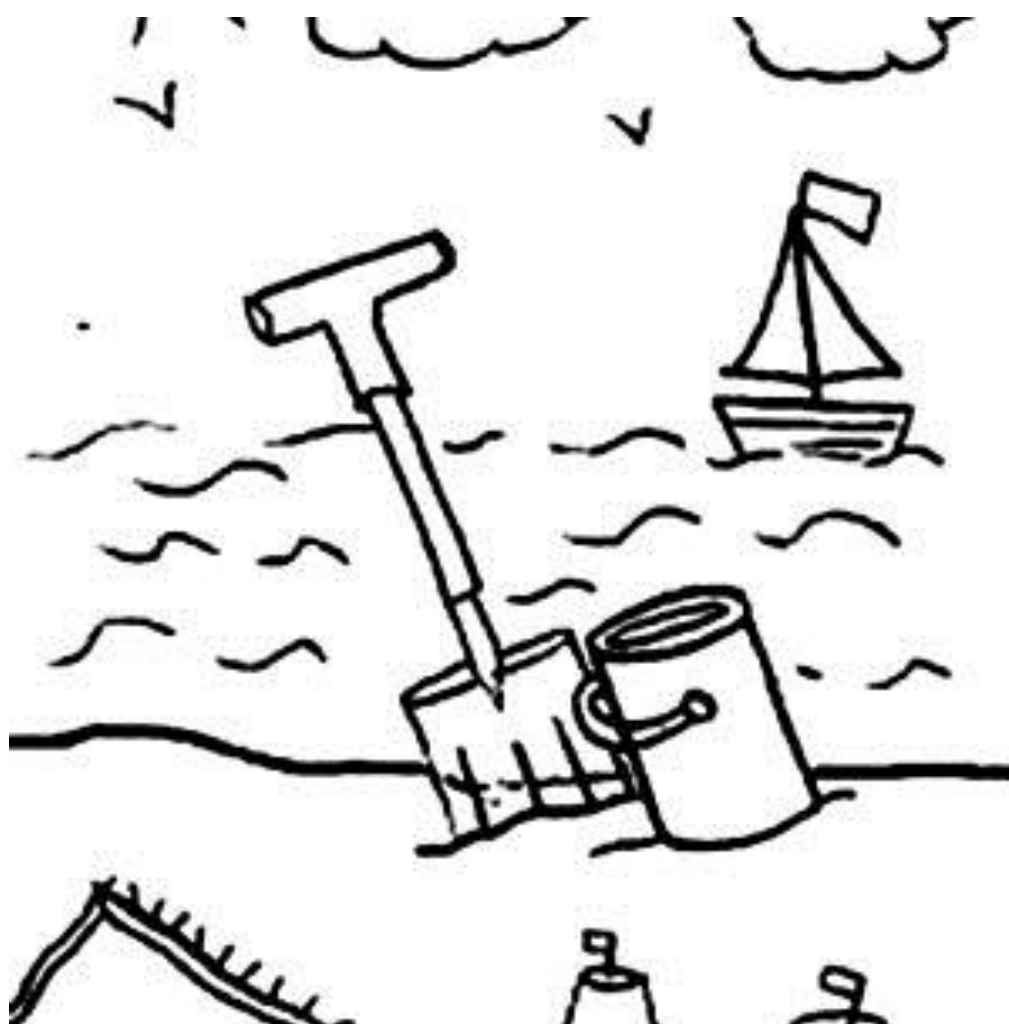


Class One Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016



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Welcome to a new term and school year. I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break. The children have settled well and are beginning to adjust to new routines.

In Year One the children will be following a creative curriculum. I have planned a range of interesting and hands on stimulating topics through which your child can learn. This half term we will begin our Finding out About the Sea topic in Week 2. We will be learning about the natural history, rocks, sand, plants and animals. We will also be thinking about how the seaside has changed since Victorian times and learning about the Titanic.

The final week of this half term will be the first of four 'Nature Detectives' weeks that will take place over the course of the year. After half term we will continue with Nature Work before moving on to the topic of 'Celebrations' followed by Christmas themed activities. Most curriculum subjects will be covered within topic sessions, with the exception of Maths, and some of the PE.

You can keep up to date with class one activities by visiting the class blog.

Maths

In our maths lessons we will be using lots of apparatus to help us understand how to count accurately to 10 and beyond. We will be thinking about number bonds to 10 and beyond and moving on to calculating one more or one less. The secret to success will be to not rush forwards too quickly and to make sure understanding is really sound.

Reading and Phonics

The teaching of reading is a combined effort between child, teacher, TAs and parents. (As stated in the School Agreement) Once the children have settled, they will all participate in Guided Reading sessions each week and it is hoped that they will be heard individually at least once a week either by a teacher, TA or by our valued parent helpers.

As soon as reading levels have been assessed your child will be given new books each Thursday or Friday. Please encourage your child to read for *a few minutes each night* at home, daily practice is better than reading a whole book in one go. When you listen to your child read, please comment and sign their reading record as this provides us with the information we need to effectively assess their reading. Please note that we will change books weekly, so if your child has finished their selection of books before Thursday we would encourage them to read their own books or library books to gain wider reading experience. These books can also be recorded and commented on in your child's reading record book.

We will be using a variety of texts including stories, poetry, historical fiction and non-fiction, play scripts and writing instructions.

We will be teaching a focused phonics session in class, 4 times a week. Your child may also be given key words or flashcards to look at with you at home. Please practise with them so that they recognise them (quickly) by sight.

P.E

In term 1, our P.E lessons are timetabled for Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please make sure your child has their full P.E kit in school for the whole week as occasionally the timetable may need to change.

Please ensure **ALL** items of school clothing and P.E kit are labelled as this reduces the anxiety the children experience when they mislay a shirt or pair of shorts. P.E sessions may take place outside so your child will require dark coloured tracksuit bottoms/leggings and plimsolls or trainers.

Homework

Reading and phonics work. I cannot stress enough how important this is. If you can just manage five to ten minutes a day I'm sure the rewards will be huge!

There will not be any additional homework set during the first term.

Outdoor area

We are currently trying to improve our outdoor area, so if any of you are having a clear-out of children's outdoor play equipment/toys any donations would be gratefully received! Any spare kitchen utensils, pots, pans etc. would also be appreciated.

We will often be taking the children outside into the outdoor area so please ensure your child has a named sunhat and raincoat in school *every day*.