



## Welcome to Year 1

**Class teachers:** Mrs Callicott and Mrs Hicks - Green class  
Miss Long – Orange class

**Teaching assistants:** Miss Howells and Mrs Venn

**SEN Teaching Assistants:** Miss Derrick and Mrs Fairhall

We hope you have all enjoyed your first year at Broadway. We have loved getting to know all the children during the summer term and we are really looking forward to the year ahead.

In Year 1 there will be a continuation from how they learnt in Reception using a continuous provision approach. This means that the children will be learning through exploration as well as being expected to complete independent tasks every day. These tasks will be differentiated and guided where necessary. There will also be some whole class, small group and 1 to 1 teaching. As the year progresses we will begin to work towards more formal whole class teaching in preparation for the learning style in Year 2.

### Independence

In Year 1 the children are expected to continue developing their independence. We are aware that moving to another class is a big change in your child's life. Thank you for your continued support with ensuring that they come into the classroom with their belongings on their own so they can put everything away themselves. This ensures that they are all in quickly and settled ready for the start of the day.

### Communication

We operate an open door policy and are always happy to discuss any concerns you may have. If you would like to speak to one of us on the door, please try to catch us at the end of the school day when we have more time to talk to you as we have to focus on the children in the mornings.

### Reminders Board

In the Year 1 area we will be placing a board on the window between the Year 1 classrooms with important events happening during that week.

### Blue Book

If you would like to continue to use the blue book that was used in reception, we ask that you or your child hand it to a member of staff on the door at drop off, as we will not be able to look through all book bags.

### Emails

If you would like to communicate via email please use the office email address and this will be forwarded to the appropriate class teacher.

### Phone Calls

If you would prefer to talk to the class teacher, please leave a message with the office and a teacher will return your call at their earliest convenience.

### Newsletter

Every week a newsletter is sent out from the letter. Important dates and information are contained in this newsletter as well as reminders from each year group. Please do try and read it each week as you will have all the information you need if you do so!

### **Water Bottles**

Just as a little reminder, class water bottles should contain water only. Please could all children have their water bottles clearly named so they are always drinking from their own bottles. Also, please could water bottles **NOT** be placed in book bags as we have had school reading books damaged due to leakages. Thank you for your support on this.

### **Reading**

Your child will bring home books each week, these include a colour banded and a phonics book that are at the level your child is working at. They will also receive a paper phonics book which is linked to the phonics we are teaching in class. Children select their books independently from the correct colour / level so don't be surprised if they bring home a favourite more than once! These books have not been shared with a teacher, therefore they will be new to the child (unless they have chosen them before!). Children will be given the opportunity to change their reading books on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

It is essential that you read as often as possible (even 5 minutes) with your child to support their reading progress. Please complete and sign the reading diary whenever your child reads to you, preferably every day. This diary will be checked by a member of teaching staff each day. Your child will have the opportunity to be a 'Champion Reader' every week. In order to become a 'Champion Reader' your child will need to have read at least 5 days out of 7 during the week. They will receive a stamp in their reading record each time they are a 'Champion Reader'. Teachers will track the children using their reading records and the amount of champion readers within the class will be displayed. The class with the most champion readers will be announced in assembly and on the newsletter. The winning class win the dreaming dragon toy to live in their room for the week!

Later this term we will have a 'Stay and Read' session where you will have an opportunity to see us teach whole class reading and then have an opportunity to join in some reading activities alongside your children in class.

Children will also have the opportunity to visit the school library once every two weeks where they will choose and bring home a school library book.

## **Homework**

For the first term we would like you to focus on reading and practising their phonic sounds whilst the children settle into Year 1 (these will be in their homework books along with the Year 1 Common Exception Words). Following Term 1 children will be given termly homework to complete linked to the topic we are learning about in class. This is an opportunity for you to share and support what is going on in Year 1. Homework can be completed in the homework book. These will be handed out during the first parent consultation at the end of the first term.

## **Forest Schools**

This will happen throughout the year and will happen whatever the weather so children will need wellies and waterproof coats. A change of trousers or waterproof trousers can be brought in if the weather is particularly wet or muddy.

## **PE**

PE happens on Wednesdays and Thursdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays (alternating). You will have been sent a copy of the PE timetable so that you know what days it is each week. We will also have a reminders board outside the Year 1 classrooms. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing a plain white t-shirt, black shorts/jogging bottoms and trainers. If they have pierced ears then they will need to cover their earrings with tape in school if you are unable to take them out on PE days. Children with long hair will need to have it tied up on PE days.

## **Parent Helpers**

We always appreciate your help in school, please see your class teacher if you would like to help in Year 1. Please be aware if you are helping sometimes we may ask you to work across the year group or in other areas of school, e.g sorting the library etc. Before you are able to help out in school you will need to read through a parent helper handbook and sign an agreement. If you are able to commit to helping regularly, we will be processing a DBS check so you are able to work with children outside of the classroom. Thank you again!

## **A rough guide to a day in Year 1**

AM – Register, Reading, Phonics, Break, English, Maths.

PM – Register, Story Time, Topic Time including one of the following: Science, PE, Music, Geography, Art, RE, History, Computing, PSHE.

All sessions will involve a short whole class input followed by 'Exploring time'. Finishing each day with 'Review and Reflection' and Assembly.

We are looking forward to working alongside you and your child,

Thank you, Mrs Hicks, Mrs Callicott, Miss Long