



5th September 2022

Dear All,

Welcome back parents and carers of year 1 and 2 children and a warm welcome to parents and carers of our new reception children. We hope you all had a good summer and that you and your children are as ready for a brilliant school year as we are!

Here are some reminders first:

- Please make sure all your child's belongings have their name on so we can return them to you.
- Make sure your child has a water bottle and waterproof coat in school every day.
- PE kits should be in school all the time.
- It is a good idea to have a spare change of clothes in school just of case of accidents.
- It would be great if your child has wellies in school all the time.

We have an exciting half term planned:

For the first few weeks, reception children will be settling into school life and getting used to our routines. We will be getting to know them and looking at what they already know and can do, what they are good at and what they might need more help with. We will start phonics lessons straight away and other teacher input is in small chunks as and when we think children are ready. The most important thing is that children settle happily into being at school! Older children will be getting used to being back in school again and usually really enjoy helping the younger children. It is lovely to watch.

Phonics - all children do phonics every day.

English - We will be looking at some lovely books including Perfectly Norman by Tom Percival, The Snail and the Whale by Julia Donaldson and Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers. KS1 children will have a go at writing stories and postcards. As part of this we will be practising spelling, and appropriate punctuation and grammar. Reception children are welcome to join in too.

Maths - Y1 will be learning about numbers up to 20. Year 2 will be learning about numbers up to 100. Then Year 1 and 2 children will learn about addition and subtraction. When they are ready, reception children will start White Rose Maths. We will have fun learning about numbers by matching and sorting and comparing small amounts. Children will compare size, mass and capacity and explore simple patterns.

Science - Forest School will be on Monday afternoons.

Topics – Our topics this half term will be 'All about me' and 'The UK, Weather and Seasons'

RE – Children will find out what it means to belong.

PSHE - We will be learning about relationships and what is the same and different about us.

Art and Design – Explore and Draw. Children are introduced to the idea that artists can be collectors: they go out into the world, look at things in new ways, and use these things to inspire their own artwork.

PE – Throwing and catching games. PE will be on Friday afternoon. Reception children will get better and better at getting changed!

Computing - We will be exploring internet safety using the fantastic CEOP resource Jessie and Friends. Activities will be adapted to suit the age range of children in class one. [Jessie Friends videos \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](http://thinkuknow.co.uk)

Music - We will be exploring different lengths of sounds by listening, making sounds and putting sounds together. Children will learn songs as a group and increase confidence performing independently and with a group.

Other information

Phonics and Reading. The children will have phonics lessons daily and if you can read at home with your child that would be great as it really helps to embed what they learn at school. To start with, reception children will have a wordless book. Please encourage your child to talk about the pictures; perhaps they can make up their own stories or you could do it together. Each child will have a reading record which is a home-school communication book so please jot in it the reading you do at home; we will record when we read with your child at school. Thank you.

Forest School is on Monday this term. Children will need to bring warm clothes. They will get changed into these at school. Layers are ideal. They will also need a waterproof coat, waterproof trousers and wellies. Children enjoy forest school far more when they are warm and dry. As the weather gets cooler, please ensure children bring what they need to be warm and dry. Look out for an email about Forest School.

Jobs to do at home. Y1 and 2 may also get some maths or english activities to complete at home. Please return to school by the following Thursday.

Friday is Show and Tell. We encourage children to bring in anything that the children have made (whether its junk models, Lego, pictures or jewellery), something that they have found whilst out and about, a book, or anything related to our topics will be warmly received. If the thing is breakable, enormous or valuable then send in a photo instead. We also welcome children to bring photographs of family, friends, places they have been and exciting adventures. Photos can also be emailed. The purpose of show and tell is to encourage speaking and listening and the children love it!

Timetable. Attached is a timetable to show the kind of activities your child may do at school. The timetable can be flexible so it is just to give you an idea of what we might do each day

As always, we are about if you have any queries, or you can email us or catch us to make an appointment. c1teacher@grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk

We are so excited about the new school year and to be working with you all.

Regards,

Mrs Slack (Monday - Wednesday), Mrs Scott (Thursday and Friday), Ms Garland-Taylor (TA) and Mrs Harriss (TA).