



Y1 and Y2 Children, (KS1) – September 2016

Dear Parents - we hope your children have been happy during the first days in their new class. The teachers feel that overall they have settled well.

We have lots of interesting and exciting plans for the term starting with a project on Africa. After half term, the children will look at history through Poppy Day, and The Gunpowder Plot.

During September, 21st and 22nd, the children will take part in African drumming and dance workshops. The cost for these workshops is £500, which will be funded by school from our PE Grant. After half term, in November, we have planned a visit to Compton Verney – more information to follow. We will also be celebrating harvest focusing on different countries.

Please watch out for letters about dates, and requests for help to come with us on visits out, as without your support we would not be able to do these activities.

Reading will receive the usual emphasis this term, and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your help in hearing your child read. If reading is practised regularly it really helps the children to achieve more. In KS1 we try to spend time discussing the content of books with the children. This is an important aspect and we would appreciate your help in questioning your child about the story that they have read. As the children move on to free readers, they should have received our reading prompt book, which suggests questions you could ask.

If you would like to know more, please come to our reading meetings on 14th September at 2.00p.m and 7.00p.m., usually aimed at the parents of children in Year 1, but if you didn't make it last year, you are welcome to attend this year.

We will be sending out spellings for the children to learn. For Y2, this will usually be on a Monday with a test the following Monday. Y1 children will be starting spellings after half term – spellings will be given out on a Friday with a test the following Friday.

There are a number of areas in which we would appreciate your help through the year. If possible:

- Please, only send money into school in named envelopes.
- **DON'T FORGET TO NAME ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING**, as this helps us to sort out missing cardigans etc.
- Please also name any bags, lunchboxes and water bottles.
- We would ask that children *do not* wear jewellery other than studs for safety reasons, or bring any valuable item into school.

Finally, if you have a problem that you wish to talk over with your child's teacher, please feel free to arrange a time to see them. It is helpful if these meetings can be arranged for 3.00pm. rather than in the morning, as this allows us to give sufficient time for discussion when we do not have to deal with the class as well. We are, of course, available first thing to deal with any urgent queries or problems.

We hope your child will enjoy the term's work and we look forward to seeing you on Parents Evening later in the term, on Thursday 20th October.

