**Welcome to Beech Class! And a lovely warm welcome to the new school year!**

We hope you have had a fantastic summer and are ready to get back into school life. I know we are and we have some amazing things planned for you! We are very lucky to have Miss Threlfall our full time teaching assistant with us.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know you all, please don’t hesitate to come and chat to me, email me at h.brooks@ellel-st-johns.lancs.sch.uk or make an appointment to come and see me if there is something more urgent you would like to discuss. Miss Brooks



**Rewards in Year 1...** We have lots of rewards in Year 1! We have class Team Points for good work and good behaviour. We also have a star of the day who gets to be our morning greeter.

**Pippin**

Every Friday, one child will bring home our class Rabbit, Pippin and a diary for the weekend for good work and behaviour. They will be asked to take him on their adventures over the weekend and record what they do in the diary. If your child is not yet able to do this it is perfectly acceptable for you to write in the diary what your child says. Please return this to school on Monday so your child can show and share their weekend news with the class.

**Reading in Year 1...** As in Acorn Class, your child will be given a set of books and a reading diary to bring home and read throughout the week. They will need to keep their reading diary and books in their book bags to bring to school every day. The children will also have lots of opportunities to read and enjoy books throughout the week at school and at home. As well as individual reading, children will take part in guided reading sessions throughout the week, where we build on and develop children’s reading skills. We change books on a Monday and Thursday and will give enough books for the week. Please encourage your child to read the books more than once as this helps to develop sight reading and fluency.

Please try to read with your child 2-3 times a week at home to help them to progress and improve.

**Transition from Reception to Year 1** Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from the Foundation Stage to Key Stage One. The Year 1 curriculum builds upon and extends the experiences that children have had in Reception. Learning through play will continue to be an important part of the school day, and the children will gradually be eased into more formal learning as the year goes on so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager learners.

**General Reminders…**

* The children will be doing PE every week in Beech Class on a Monday and a Friday. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school and that all items are clearly labelled.
* Any letters or reply slips, which need to be returned, can be put in your child’s book bag or posted in the post box at the front of school. The children are encouraged to check them each morning and give things in when we do the register.
* The children will need to bring their own water bottle to keep in class which they can access throughout the day and will be sent home daily. Please make sure your child’s name is written clearly on their water bottle.
* Forest Schools – Our dates are every Tuesday from 19th October – 23rd November and every Tuesday from 22nd February – 22nd March. (More information to follow)