



Welcome to Year 1 and Beech Class!



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a lovely time over the summer and we are sure you are now ready to start the new school year, so welcome to Year 1! We are looking forward to building on the relationships we have made in Acorn class and continuing working together so that we have a very exciting and productive year. We hope that you enjoy the new challenges and approaches to learning that Year 1 has to offer. We are very lucky to have a fantastic teaching assistant with us this year, Miss Threlfall. We are sure you will be getting to know her as the weeks go on. Mrs Quinn's time out of class for planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) is all day Wednesday and Tuesday afternoon. Mrs O'Donnell will be teaching Beech Class for this time. Please don't hesitate to email me at h.quinn@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.

Mrs Quinn ☺

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.

Sparky the Sloth

Every Friday, one child will bring home our class Sloth, 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 by **Thursday** (the following week) so your child can show and share their weekend news with the class.



Rewards in Year 1...

We have lots of rewards in Year 1! We have class Team Points for good work and good behaviour as well as Dojo points. For every set of 10 Dojo points your child will get a prize from our prize box. We also have a star of the day who gets to be our morning greeter.



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.



General Reminders...

- The children will be doing **PE** every week in Beech Class. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school and that all items are clearly labelled. We encourage children to practise getting dressed at home to help them get changed quickly in school.
- 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 they will change their water regularly. Please make sure your child's name is written clearly on their water bottle.