

Welcome to Turtles & Parrots Class!

Meet The Teacher 2021-2022

Year One Parents Information



Transition

- The first half term is similar to EYFS. It is very practical based, with a hands on learning approach as we settle children into the school day.
- It is a gentle and gradual transition and we will always support the children to enjoy the school day.
- Each class has 1 class teacher and 1 LSA every morning, and 2 afternoons each week.
- Normal school times have returned. Please drop off at 8:45 and pick up 3:10, the gate opens around 10 minutes before.
- Children will have one morning break (on the big playground) and lunchtime in the hall, followed by another playtime on the playground. The children that are school dinners will be able to get up to get their own meals.



Lessons

- In the first half term, we have a 10 minute teaching input for English and Maths. Each input will be followed by 1:1 or small group adult led tasks for roughly 10/15 minutes.
- When your child is not completing a task, they will be able to go to play freely in the classroom and outdoor area.
- We will initially assess where the children are so we can plan our lessons accordingly. Your child's' progress will be shared with you during parents evenings that happen once each term.
- When children complete adult led tasks, this will usually be completed at a desk. We complete lots of practical activities and brain breaks so that the children are not at their desk for too long!



No tapestry – Sorry!

We use an application called Seesaw, which is very similar to Tapestry. We take photos and encourage the children to take photos of their practical work and upload it to their private folders. Parents do not have access to Seesaw. This is because as we start to move towards recording work in books, it would be harder to upload and manage as their work is recorded. You will have a chance to look through your children's fantastic work during parents evening.

The children absolutely adore uploading their own work onto Seesaw.



Phonics

- There is a big focus on phonics in Year One! During the Summer Term there is a 'Phonics Screening Test', you will be given more information on this later in the year.
- Each day we will complete two phonics sessions. We will introduce a new sound in the morning and revise that sound in the afternoons.
- We follow the mastery approach which means all children stay together for phonics sessions. It is beneficial for all children to be taught the same phonemes at the same time and each session will introduce challenges and support for those that need it.
- Extra phonics support will be given to those children that are identified.
- Within the first few weeks you will be given a print out of your child's next steps once they have been assessed. We also have lists of high frequency words and phonemes that can be given out upon request.



Reading

- Reading every day helps to develop our children's language and vocabulary.
- We do not read 1:1 with children in school. Instead, we use daily 'guided reading' sessions. This means that each day 6 children will be our focus children during a class reading session. We will encourage those children to read aloud and target our questions towards them. This will also expose other children to books and vocabulary that could be above their current level. It will also encourage children to listen to how others read with expression and use role models for decoding and blending.
- We will offer 1:1 reading sessions for those children identified that need extra support.

Your child will be given a reading book once a week which is matched to their phonics. They will also be given a levelled book which can be shared as well as a library book of their choice. Please continue to use bug club at home, if you need help with this please let us or the office know.



English & Maths

- We use the 'Take One Book' literature based framework for teaching English. Each half term will have an overarching theme based on a book, such as 'Pumpkin Soup'.

This scheme encourages children to read and write different text types such as stories, letters & diary entries. We use a hook to engage the children and give the lessons purpose, such as creating information posters or writing letters to characters.

- We use the 'White Rose' scheme for Maths. This encourages children to use different methods for the different areas of Maths. For example, using tens frames to add amounts.
- Across all of our subjects, we encourage '**Mastery**'. This means, we encourage our children to dive deeper into our subjects, explain their answers and apply different methods.



Foundation Subjects & Handwriting

- Foundation subjects include: P.E, History, R.E, Geography etc. We will complete one foundation subject input each afternoon session, and this will increase to two subjects as the year goes on.
- We are lucky to have outside agencies such as the sports partnership come in to teach some lessons like football, basketball, tennis etc which we were unable to do last year.
- We also have a handwriting session once each day. There is a big focus on handwriting in Year One. We currently encourage children to write using a cursive style. We will also encourage children to write neatly on the line and develop their writing stamina. Support will be given to those that need support with pencil control/grip.



Other bits and bobs!

Home Learning:

We will be sending home learning home each week. This will be uploaded to the school website. It is not compulsory! Please do not feel pressured, it is to help bring our children on more, but please only complete what you can. Home learning will include some spellings (we do not test spellings using formal tests).

Clubs:

A letter will go out with further details, but we are very happy to be reintroducing extra curricular clubs such as football, tennis and piano etc.

Parent Helpers:

If you would be interested in helping in class, please contact the office as we would love to have you!

You're all great!

Mrs Fisk and Mrs Giles have told us how supportive you all are, so we look forward to maintaining our positive relationship with you. If you ever have any questions or need support with something, our door is always open. Please catch us before or after school or email us using our class email addresses.

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Thank you for attending today!



