



Year 1 Welcome Letter

A very warm welcome back to school this year. We hope that you have had a great summer holiday. I look forward to getting to know your child and watching them grow, both socially and academically. Year 1 is the start of your child working on the National Curriculum. It is very different from Reception class. However, to ensure an easier transition for the children, we continue with some areas of continuous provision, throughout the Autumn term. This will be mostly tabletop provision, due to the size of the classroom. They will no longer have their own carpet place, but instead have their own table place. Some children will have a maths place and an English place. They change places frequently, throughout the year.

Reading Books

We change reading books on a **Wednesday**. On a Wednesday, your child will be set a new eBook (Big Cat Collins book) to read. **Their login details are on a separate sheet. Please keep this safe.** This book is fully decodable for your child to read and access and they will have already read this book in class, three times that week. The purpose of this, is to get your child to read fluently by sight, to develop their automaticity. They should read this online book more than once. They will have a library on their account, where they can also access previous books, they have read. In their reading wallet, they will come home with a decodable book and a reading record. This decodable book, your child should be able to read 90% fluently to you. They will have not read this book before with an adult. Please comment in their reading record about how they read both books (online and physical decodable book). Any words that they struggled with, please comment. They will also come home with a book for pleasure. This book is for your child to be able to listen to an adult read it to them to encourage a love for reading. They pick which book they would like to take home for pleasure, each week. You can also comment in their record on books they have read at home. Your child will have come home today with a new plastic reading folder containing their first decodable book and their monkey reading record. Please ensure your child brings their book each Wednesday to be changed. **Reading for 5/10 minutes a day is vital to consolidate their phonic skills and improve their fluency.** If you misplace or damage a reading book throughout the year, then you must pay £5 via Scopay to replace the lost or damaged book. Once the office receives the payment, we will allocate your child with a new book. We assess your child every 5/6 weeks to see if they can move up books. We will write in their home reading record when we have carried out the assessments and if they have moved up a phase/set. We only check reading records on a Wednesday.

PE

PE is on a **Tuesday afternoon**. Children will come into school that day wearing their PE kit. Please still ensure all items are labelled. If your child has their ears pierced, please provide tape/plasters for your child to cover them up with or remove the piercings before the school day. This is for health and safety. Otherwise, they will be sent to Year 2. We have an external PE coach who will deliver their sessions.

Water Bottles

The children should have their own water bottles, which they bring to school. These should be taken home each day, so that fresh water can be put in them. We do have access to cups, should someone forget their bottle, so they will always have fresh water available. Please ensure their water bottle is labelled with their name. Water only! This is school policy. Any juice will be asked to be emptied down the sink. Please ensure the bottle is plastic and that it has a sucker/straw, not a screw off lid.



Curriculum

Each half term, I will upload a curriculum map to the class webpage, which will inform you of the learning that will be taking place for that current half term. Autumn's curriculum map will be available on the class webpage by **Friday 13th September 2024**.

Phonics Screening Check/Phonics Meeting

At the end of year 1, children are required to take a phonics test to assess progress across Reception and Year 1 in their phonics knowledge of blending real and nonsense words. This is nothing for the children to worry about. The test will be completed at the beginning of June. On **Wednesday 25th September at 4:00pm**, there will be a parent Phonics/Reading meeting, with more information. It will last around half an hour. Unfortunately, no children will be able to attend this meeting.

Stay and Play session

Stay and Play is very popular in Reception, and we always have an amazing turn out! To ease the transition from Reception to Year 1, we hold **one** Stay and Play in the first half term showcasing how well your child has settled into their new classroom and for you to complete some challenges/activities with your child in their new environment. Due to the size of the classroom, we will split the session into a morning group and an afternoon group with 15 max per session. **The morning session will be 9:15 – 10:15am on Monday 14th October 2024 and the afternoon session will be 2:00 – 3:00pm on Monday 14th October 2024**. Unfortunately, due to the size of the classroom, no younger siblings can attend. Also, only 1 adult per child please. We will have a signing up sheet closer to the time for you to sign up.

Year 1 Maths Workshop

We will be holding a maths workshop where there will be different challenges/questions set out for your child to show you what resources we use to help us in our maths and the methods we use to solve these problems. Prior, parents have asked for us to demonstrate the methods and strategies we use in each year group, because most of the time it is different from when we as adults went to school. Unfortunately, due to the size of the classroom, no younger siblings can attend. Also, only 1 adult per child please. This will be **Wednesday 6th November at 2:00pm**.

Phonics Homework

On **Friday 13th September**, your child will come home with an Autumn term 1 phonics booklet. Inside the booklet, is a list of dates when each piece/s need completing. We will have covered those sounds/words that week already. This booklet stays at home. You may add photographs to Tapestry to show evidence that your child has completed the pages, if you wish. We will carry out mini assessments on your child throughout the following weeks to test their knowledge and understanding. Each half term your child will come home with a new phonics half term booklet.

Homework

We will also set homework via Tapestry or in a red homework book. This might be some maths, English or linked to our foundation topics. In most cases you will take a photograph of their work and send it via Tapestry for us to access. Some homework however, we will ask for your child to bring into school to display in the classroom. Red books if sent home on a Friday are due back in by Tuesday.

Dates for your diary

- Phonics/Reading meeting – Wednesday 25th September 2024 at 4:00pm
- Stay and Play session - Monday 14th October 2024 at 9:15am or 2:00pm. The session will last 1 hour.
- Year 1 Maths workshop – Wednesday 6th November 2024 at 2:00pm

Tapestry

Tapestry in Year 1 will be used:

- to send out and receive homework
- to send out letters/information regarding Year 1
- to upload (mainly group) photographs of our daily lessons which are practical based

For example, in maths the learning objective might be to touch count to 10. They will complete a math’s worksheet for that objective. As well as this there might be a practical activity alongside which we will photograph.

Another example would be in DT where we are making a model we will photograph the different stages.

Communication in Year 1

We will also be updating our class webpage with work; we have completed throughout the year for you to take a look. Here is the link.

<https://www.camslane.bury.sch.uk/year-1/>

We have an open-door policy at Cams Lane. If you have a question to ask, then please feel free to catch me in the morning, or at the end of the day. If this is not convenient, you can email the school office, who will forward it on to me.

Here’s to making lots of fabulous memories in Year 1.

Miss Partington