



14<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Parents

The Autumn Term has begun well for the pupils and staff of Year 1. The children came into school with happy smiling faces and a positive attitude from the first day and are continuing to amaze us with their enthusiasm and maturity. All of the children were well prepared for school and it was very helpful of you to allow your children to come in independently, as this encourages their development. Having the pod areas in the mornings as 'children only zones' is working very well.

**Communication** - If you need to speak to us please try to catch us outside before or preferably after school rather than coming into school when lessons are starting. As you can imagine, the cloakrooms are already very busy. If it is something important please make an appointment so that we can give you our full attention.

**Clothing** - The weather is as unpredictable as ever, therefore please can you ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school as they will still go outside to play if it is raining. Also, please check that items of clothing are labelled with your child's name.

**PE** - Please ensure your child has a PE kit in school. This term PE is going to take place outdoors whenever possible so your child will need trainers or plimsolls in his/her PE kit please. If possible, please send an art shirt (large old shirt or T shirt) to be kept in your child's PE bag.

**Reading Books** - In class, the children have many opportunities to practise their reading. The most important of these is their guided reading once a week when they will read in a small group with their teacher. Key skills and knowledge are taught, discussed and practised. However, your input is still invaluable at this stage in reading development. Your child's core home reading book will be changed once a week.

**Spelling** - The children will be bringing home a spelling list every week at the start of the Spring term.

**Curriculum** - This term our topics are 'The Seaside' and 'Light and Dark' (See below for a broad outline of the areas we will be covering). Towards the end of term we will be going on a visit to King's College Chapel. This trip will cost approximately £3. More details will follow in a separate letter closer to the time.

**Show and Tell** - We will be having 'show and tell' once a week on Fridays. The children may bring in artefacts to show relating to our topic, or something special that they want to talk about. Please also let us know about special family events such as birthdays, religious festivals, weddings and so on.

Please feel free to come to see us if you want any more information about any of these arrangements.

Yours sincerely

Miss Pickering      Miss Spelzini      Mrs Ellwood

Topics for the term

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Literacy</b></p> <p>Stories with familiar settings</p> <p>Predictable and patterned text</p> <p>Poetry and rhyme</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mathematics</b></p> <p>Counting, partitioning and calculating</p> <p>Securing number facts, understanding shape</p> <p>Handling data and measures</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Science</b></p> <p>Light and dark</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ICT</b></p> <p>Mouse skills</p> <p>Using paint</p> <p>Simulations</p> <p>Investigation</p> <p>Keyboard skills</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Art and Design</b></p> <p>Seaside theme</p> <p>Seurat style painting</p> <p>Observational drawings</p> <p>Self portrait</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Design Technology</b></p> <p>Moving pictures</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PSHCE</b></p> <p>New beginnings</p> <p>Rules and rights</p> <p>Practising democracy</p> <p>Relationships</p> <p>Helping and getting help</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Languages</b></p> <p>Italian</p> <p>Languages within the class</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>History and Geography</b></p> <p>Seaside past and present</p> <p>Seaside features</p> <p>Seaside location on maps</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music</b></p> <p>Singing and using instruments</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PE</b></p> <p>Gym – travelling and stopping.</p> <p>Games – rolling and receiving</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RE</b></p> <p>Harvest</p>