

# CLASS 1 NEWSLETTER

## 🍂 Autumn Term 🍂

Hi all! I hope you have had a magical summer and are excited to start a new journey in Year 1! I am so looking forward to greeting the children into our class and getting started on what I think will be such a fun year! I have loved getting to know them all so far and I cannot wait to see what we can achieve together 😊

In this newsletter I have included important information about our class. Sorry for the long read, but please read carefully, as there may be quite a few changes from Reception!

## 🏫 The School Day 🏫

The children are expected to line up on the junior playground in the morning. I will come out to greet you on the infant playground at 8:40. The bell will ring and the children will go to their line. After the bell rings again at 8:45 we will enter the school. If children arrive late, can they please go straight to the office.

The children will be dismissed at 3:15 from the infant playground. When dismissing, please wait for me to send your child over to you to ensure everyone gets home safely. Feel free to give me a wave if I haven't spotted you!

## 👩‍🏫 Our Teachers 👩‍🏫

I will be teaching the children all week, and on a typical week, I will come out to greet the children every morning. I will dismiss every afternoon except Wednesday, when it will be Miss Jones. If necessary, Mrs Jackson may support with dismissing too.

We have Mrs Jackson with us from Monday to Thursday. She will be teaching some Phonics lessons, working with us in lessons, reading with us and running maths interventions. Mrs Campbell will also support some children for phonics interventions!

On Wednesday afternoons the children will be taught by Miss Jones. She will teach a variety of topics across the year, but this term she will be teaching Art, DT and Music.

## 👕 Uniform and Belongings 👕

At The British School, we expect the children to wear correct uniform as detailed in our Uniform Policy. If there are any issues with this or if I can offer any support in this area, please do let me know!

When the children have PE, their PE kit needs to be worn to school on these days. This should include; a house coloured t-shirt (green, yellow or blue), black shorts/joggers/leggings and daps/trainers.

For Forest School, the children need to bring a change of clothes into school with them. This must include a long sleeved top and long trousers to protect from any insects! I strongly suggest bringing wellies in case of mud, which can be kept on our welly rack.

As the weather can vary during the Autumn months, please send children into school with a coat, as they will go outside for play unless weather conditions are too extreme! This can be left on pegs all year if preferred.

Please ensure children come into school with a labelled water bottle. We ask that children bring their reading books to school every day, as they may be read with by an adult on any day of the week.

As always, can we ask that **ALL** items of clothing, footwear, bags, water bottles, and lunchboxes are clearly named to ensure items are not lost!

## 📅 Our Week 📅

Monday

★Term 2: PE ★Mr Roche Assembly ★Homework Club

Tuesday

★Singing Assembly ★Singing Club ★Multi-Skills Club

Wednesday

★Term 1 and 2: PE ★Miss Jones Teaching PM ★Open the Book Assembly Fortnightly  
★Gardening Club

Thursday

★Term 1: Forest School ★Book Change ★Homework Due ★Arts and Crafts Club  
★Dance Club

Friday

★No Mrs Jackson ★Praise Assembly ★Computing Club

## Homework

The children are expected to read 5 times a week, which is then written in their reading journal. The expectations for reading these books are stuck in the children's reading journal.

Books will be changed once a week, on Thursdays, when Mrs Jackson will change books if they have been read a sufficient number of times. It is recommended that if your child reads all of their books before this, that they do re-read them in order to support their developing fluency.

The children are also expected to complete an activity in their reading journal once a fortnight. These activities support the children's understanding of the books they are reading and encourage them to be enthused about reading. These are marked weekly and I am always so excited to see what the children have been up to!

The children also have a homework book that will include a weekly maths and literacy task that will be sent home on a Friday, due in and checked on the following Thursday. These short tasks are intended to support their consolidation of recent learning and their growing independence in taking responsibility for their own learning.

Homework expectations will be stuck in their homework books for you to refer to and homework will always be dated to ensure you are aware of when it was given and when it is due.

I am keen to ensure we are on the same page and feel that home learning provides an insightful opportunity for parents and carers to see what their children are learning about and how they are accessing age-related tasks. I understand that it may not always be straightforward completing home learning, so please always let me know if there are any questions or problems regarding homework.

## Curriculum

In Year 1, the children begin by consolidating and deepening much of their learning from Reception. As the children transition from Reception to Year 1, we aim to gradually introduce more formal teaching. Our timetable consists of whole class teaching, with both Mrs Jackson and myself taking groups during Maths and Literacy lessons to work closely with the children. While we are working with groups, the other children will access some Enhanced Provision, where there will be activities related to the lesson's objective and unit. As such young children, I do feel that lots of their learning still needs to take place in a more practical manner, with opportunities for purposeful play, imagination and curiosity.

I have included a copy of our Curriculum Overview so that you can see what we will be learning about each term! This is always subject to change but is a rough guide of our topics 😊

In Year 1, the children will sit the Phonics Screening Check. This is a statutory assessment that indicates whether a child has learnt phonic decoding to an age-appropriate standard. This will be held in June and in preparation for this we will have a strong focus of phonics and reading across the year. Children are given additional support where needed and complete regular practice checks to ensure that this is not a stressful or anxious experience for them. In the past, my classes have always found this a fun activity! I will host a Parent's Workshop later in the year to share more information on this and provide resources to support your children in preparing for this.

We will be hosting a Reception and Year 1 Parent's Workshop on Tuesday September 17th at 5:30pm to share more about what learning looks like in our classes, most specifically what Phonics is, how we teach Phonics and how you can support your child's phonetic development and reading at home.

## Final Note

I am really looking forward to getting to know you all a little better now that I will be teaching your children every day! My absolute priority is that the children feel happy and safe coming into school. In my daily conversations with the children I intend to support them to develop their understanding of their own emotions, behaviours and responsibilities. As we return to school, we will have a heavy focus on routines and behaviour choices, the impact of these and how we can work as a team to create a safe and happy environment.

While I am your child's teacher (and for years to come!) I am here for them for whatever they need, whether it's to patch up a grazed knee, a cuddle when they miss their family or a little positive encouragement when they are finding a task tricky. As they spend so much time here with us at school, I want you to feel reassured that they are truly valued and cared for.

If you have any concerns about your child's academic progress, behaviour choices or social/emotional/mental health needs then please do not hesitate to contact me so that we can work together to support your child. Likewise, if you have any questions (no matter how small or silly!) please feel free to speak to me during drop off and pick up or email me at [hcarter@british.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:hcarter@british.gloucs.sch.uk).

Best wishes, Miss Carter 🌟❤️🌻