



Telford Infant School

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September 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope that you and your children have had a wonderful summer break, despite the covid restrictions, and we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to Year One. Our theme for this half term is 'The Wonderful World of Julia Donaldson.' The children will enjoy using some of Julia Donaldson's well-known stories and poems as stimulus for their learning, as well as some new ones they may not have heard before. This half term our approach is very much transition based and we are focused on settling the children into school happily and safely. The children will get lots of opportunities to choose their learning from different areas of the classroom linked to our topic and will also spend time completing activities with the grownups that work in their class.

Welcome Evening

Sadly, our Welcome Evening cannot run in the same way as it usually does this year. In order to provide you with information about the routines and expectations in Year One we have made a video presentation which will be available on Tapestry from Tuesday 8th September. Please spend some time watching this video. If you have any questions related to what is shared in the presentation then please do get in touch via the school email address.

Tapestry

Thank you to those families who have already activated their child's Tapestry account. We will be using Tapestry to share reading sessions that your child takes part in at school and will also be uploading resources and documents that you can use at home to support the learning that happens in school. Tapestry can also be used by you to upload any home learning activities that you may choose to complete at home with your child. When home learning is uploaded we can then share it in our classrooms with the whole class and make a real celebration of what the children have produced at home. The Year One Tapestry accounts do need activating as this is a new account and not a continuation from the account that you had in Reception.

Home Learning

In Year One the children have optional home learning in the form of a "take away" sheet with a variety of ideas, based on their current topic, for them to pick and choose from. The home learning is designed to provide the children with fun opportunities to consolidate or extend their learning at home and involve you in the process. This is very successful and the children enjoy sharing their home learning with the class. Please do not feel that you have to do every task listed. The sheet is designed to cover a range of our curriculum subject areas and certain activities may appeal more to your child than others. We include 6 tasks as this allows for approximately one piece of home learning per week should you choose to complete any. Please send any completed home learning into school for your child to share with us and the class or upload what they produce onto Tapestry. We really do enjoy seeing what the children have been up and like to celebrate their achievements with them.

Thank you to the families who have returned the summer family tree learning challenge. Please feel free to keep bringing these in as the children are enjoying sharing them with their peers.

Reading

Over the next two weeks we will be spending time listening to all of the children read individually. This will allow us to provide your child with an appropriate reading book for sharing with you at home. Once your child has a school reading book we ask that you keep it in the plastic wallet that you were given in Reception for this

purpose and send it to school every day in your child's book bag. Please let us know if you no longer have this plastic wallet. We recommend that you try to hear your child read every day – little and often really is the best approach to supporting your child with their reading. At the moment, our system for changing reading books in Year One is the same as it was in Reception (we will let you know if it changes). There is a 'reading books to be changed box' in each Year One classroom where your child should place their book (inside their plastic wallet) on a Tuesday and Friday morning if it needs changing. In school the children will read with an adult as part of a guided reading group once a week. They may also read with an adult individually on top of or instead of their guided reading session. We will use Tapestry to communicate information related to your child's reading sessions just as The Reception Team did last year. Tapestry is designed to be used as a two way communication tool, so please do add comments onto your child's Tapestry account to let us know how they are getting on when they read with you at home too.

All children have home access to Phonics Bug and can continue to use the login and password given to them in Reception.

Special days

We always try to celebrate special days and events in school to ensure the children learn about a broad range of topics. This half term we will be celebrating Harvest Festival. We will also be supporting National Poetry Day in October by focusing on nursery rhymes and simple poems for the children to read and perform before being inspired to write their own.

Outdoor classroom

Please make sure that your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school throughout the autumn and winter months, both for playtimes, and to enable us to learn outside if appropriate.

PE

In Year One during the Autumn Term PE is normally on Monday afternoons. However, please make sure that your child has a named PE kit (including jogging bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers) in school every day as PE days can sometimes change.

Water and fruit

Please send your child to school with a named and filled water bottle every day. The children have access to their water bottle all day and can drink when they need to. If you would like your child to have a mid morning snack then please send your child with a piece of fruit in their book bag. We ask that the fruit is not strawberries, kiwi or pineapple due to allergies.

Birthdays

We love celebrating your child's birthday with them which we do in class and as part of our celebration assembly. As in Reception, your child is invited to donate a book to the classroom library to share with their friends. As a healthy school and due to allergy and dietary requirements of the children, we no longer give out birthday sweets.

We are really looking forward a super year of fun and learning in Year One. We cannot wait to meet you and we are very excited to finally be able to get to know our new little learners. If you have any questions throughout the year then please just ask.

Kind Regards

Year One Team

