 Spring Newsletter

Year 1

I hope you and your family have had a wonderful break over the Christmas holidays and the children are ready for an exciting term in Year 1. There has been a lot of change so far this school year, the children have coped so well and have settled into a routine. I would like to thank you all for your patience and kindness. I know they will keep amazing us as we learn new and exciting things! The Year 1 team, now consists of: **Miss Dougill – Class Teacher, Mrs Clifford – Teaching Assistant and Miss Mitchell – Teaching assistant. Muss Juntunen will be teaching on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.**

Our aim is to ensure that the children experience a smooth transition from the Foundation Stage to Key Stage 1. The Year 1 curriculum builds upon and extends the experiences that children have had in Reception and the curriculum has a heavy focus on developing skills. Learning through play will continue to be an important part of the school day. This term the children will gradually be eased into more formal learning as the year goes on so that they remain motivated, enthused and eager learners. This means that continuous provision will be more focused and will take place whilst doing formal learning.

**Reading books** ~ Your child has been given a reading record and a reading book based on the sounds they have covered in their weekly phonics lessons. In the reading record, there is space to record comments about how your child has read, including words that they might have struggled with. They should be able to read the book independently, sounding out unfamiliar words. Books will be changed on Tuesdays. Please aim to listen to your child read at least once a week. The children's phonics screening check will take place in June, so we are focusing on our reading and phonics. Your child will also be bringing home a library book each week which can be shared together – please ensure this is back in school on a Wednesday so that it can be changed.

**PE Days** ~ Our PE days will remain the same - Monday and Wednesday. This is subject to change, so please keep an eye out for any changes. Please ensure your child always has their full PE kit in school, as we may change the day due to the weather. Please ensure their PE kit includes their names, as it is much easier to return if anything is lost or misplaced.

**Homework** ~ Every Friday, your child will come home with 3 pieces of homework. One will be a mathematics-focused activity, a phonics activity, and a Question of the week. The question of the week will be focused on something we are learning in Science, Geography, Art, or RE. Please send your child in with anything they do as part of their homework or upload pictures onto Tapestry.

**Drinks** ~ Please can your child bring in a named bottle filled with water each day; children must not have juice or cordial. Fresh fruit is provided daily, but children are free to bring in their own fruit snack if they wish.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any concerns or queries about your child’s education at l.dougill@holy-family.lancs.sch.uk

Miss Dougill and the Year 1 Team.