



# All about Owl Class (Year 1)



## Welcome to Owl Class

We hope that your child enjoys their time in Year 1. Below is some further information about the things we do in Year 1.

### Staff in Year 1

Mrs Slater will be teaching Owl Class Monday - Wednesday and Mrs Poskitt will be teaching Thursday and Friday. Mrs Darnton and Mrs Ellison are the teaching assistants in Owl Class. Mr Hirst will be teaching for some of time on a Tuesday and Thursday when the Class Teachers have their PPA time.

### Reward Schemes

In Year 1 we use our behaviour chart to encourage and celebrate effort and hard work, good manners, good listening and positive behaviour both in class and at playtimes. At the end of the day, we talk about and celebrate the hard work and good behaviour of children on the chart and hand out stickers and team points by way of a reward.

We will continue to use the whole-school team point system. As a reminder, this consists of four teams: Blue Mustangs, Green Gladiators, Orange Spitfires and Purple Typhoons. Every time a child works hard or does something special they are awarded 1 or more team points. These team points are then counted up at the end of the week and the winning team is awarded a trophy during our Star Assembly.

### Outdoor Learning and play

We are an OPAL school, which means that the children have access to a wide range of open-ended resources outside during their break and lunchtimes. Children will be expected to be out in all weathers so please ensure that your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school every day. Please also send a pair of Wellington Boots in a named carrier bag to leave in school so that we don't have muddy shoes.

## Reading Books and Reading

Reading books will be changed every Monday. Your child will read with an adult 3 times a week, this may be on different days each week so please ensure that your child has their reading record and reading book in their bag every day.

Every week (usually Monday) Owl Class will visit the library where they will be given the opportunity to choose two books for the week. Please ensure that all library books are brought back to school each Monday so that the children can choose new books.

## Date for your Diary

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 4-4.30pm we will be holding a phonics workshop to remind parents how we teach phonics in school. We will also provide free child care (for school age children only) during this workshop.

## Good Work Assemblies and Hot Chocolate

As in Reception, every Friday the children will take part in a whole-school assembly which celebrates pupils who have worked particularly hard or made good progress in their learning. Every week two children are chosen from each class to receive a certificate in recognition of their efforts and their achievements. A hot chocolate award will be awarded to one child each week who has tried their best with their learning and who has also been a great role model in class during the week. These children will have a hot chocolate treat with Mrs Walmsley or Mrs Bembridge on a Friday.

## Whole Class Reward

As a celebration of teamwork in Year 1 the children are able to collect Minions. Whenever the whole class impress us with their attitude, listening and learning they will get a Minion. When the class have collected 10 Minions they will earn 10 minutes extra playtime as a reward for their teamwork.

## Octavia the Owl

Octavia is our class owl. Every Wednesday a child will be chosen to take Octavia home along with 2 books from our book corner and a hot chocolate sachet to enjoy with Octavia. In the book that will accompany Octavia, your child will be able to write, draw and add photographs of the reading adventures they have with this awesome owl. Further information will accompany the book.

# Homework Expectations

Please read regularly with your child at home, a minimum of 3 times per week would be fabulous. It would be really helpful if you could add a brief comment and signature when you (or any other adult) reads with your child at home.



Accessing Numbots regularly at home will support your child's mental maths and retrieval skills. A minimum of 10 minutes per week would be perfect! This will increase to 15 minutes per week in summer term in preparation for Year 2. Each week a Numbots certificate will be awarded to one child who has worked hard on Numbots during the week.



In the next few weeks your child will receive a login for Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed helps children to practise spellings at home. Five spelling assignments (games) will be set for your child to access every Friday. Each week a certificate will be awarded to one child who has worked hard on Spelling Shed during the week.

## Challenge Books

Challenge books will be sent home every Wednesday to be returned on a Monday so that they can be updated. Challenge books will contain phonics sounds and words that we have been learning the previous week and anything else that would be helpful for you to practise at home with your child. This homework is not compulsory but will give you an idea of what we have been learning in class. Please feel free to let your child write in these books to practise spellings, number formation etc.

## Class Dojo

In Year 1, we will continue to use Class Dojo to send messages to parents such as notifications, reminders and feedback. It is a fabulous way of keeping you up to date with that is going on in Year 1 and your child's progress. The children will also receive points on Class Dojo for super learning and behaviour. Once they achieve 50 points they will receive a small prize from the prize box.

Thank you in advance for your support this year. We are looking forward to a fabulous year of learning and fun with your lovely children.

Mrs Slater & Mrs Poskitt