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Headteacher: Cath Newson

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2014

Dear Parents,

Welcome to everyone in Class 1, especially our new Reception children, who have had a fantastic first day in school today.

For the first two weeks, our topic is 'All About Me' as the children settle into their new class. We will be discussing our families, favourite activities and friends, finding out what our bodies can do and comparing ourselves now to when we were babies. Please can you send in a baby picture of your child; we will use these to create a wall display and I promise to return the photos to you afterwards. Please also write your child's name on the back of the photo!

From week 3 we will adopt the whole school topic of 'Fire.'

In **Literacy**, Reception children will be learning the initial letter sounds and will begin to blend these to read simple words. Reading books containing pictures (without words initially) will be sent home this week for you to share with your child. Please encourage them to talk about the story as depicted in the pictures.

Year 1 children will continue to progress within the Read, Write Inc. phonics and 'Get Writing' scheme. Reading books will be changed three times a week and children are encouraged to change them more frequently if required.

We will also be exploring stories in familiar settings, non-fiction and poetry as part of our literacy, with Year 1 children writing with increased independence.

In **Numeracy**, the children will be counting and ordering numbers to 10 (Rec) and counting, ordering and partitioning numbers to 20 (Y1). Addition, money, measures and shape will also be taught, moving onto subtraction at the end of the half term. Parents of Reception children will receive a booklet each for numbers and reading that outline some activities to support your child at home.

Year 1 children will have spellings and number facts to learn from week 3, which will be sent home on Tuesdays and checked in school on Fridays.

In **Science** we will be learning about human and animal body parts, senses, pets and comparing eye and hair colour using pictograms.

In **Art and Design**, we will create self-portraits and design our perfect pet.

In **Music** we will be singing songs to accompany the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and exploring rhythm using percussion instruments.

In **PE** we will be learning the fundamental movement skills of agility, balance, co-ordination and speed, as well as swimming on Thursdays. PE will be on Mondays and Wednesdays.

In **History** and **Geography** we will be learning about the Great Fire of London and studying our local environment.

On Friday we will have '**Show and Tell**' in class, when children are invited to bring in a special item to talk about to the rest of the class.

If you have any questions or concerns, however small, please do come and find me in Class 1, I look forward to seeing you and am really looking forward to getting to know the children over the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Blythe