



## Miss Arkley's Year 1 Class Spring 1



Dear Parents,

A big welcome back after the Christmas break and I hope you all had a wonderful and restful time. I am sure the children will come back full of energy and ready to get stuck into our new topic based around **animals**. We have lots of fun learning planned over the next half term with animal fact files, planting our own fruit/vegetables and learning skills for invasion games in PE. In art we are making a huge spider sculpture out of newspaper so if you have any newspaper at home PLEASE could you bring it into school? Thank you!

### Reading

The children are still extremely enthusiastic to read with an adult in school and they have shown a real love of reading. We have enjoyed the novel Rabbit and Bear by Julian Gough and The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson. This term we are beginning The Hodgeheg by Dick King Smith, which is always popular! Please continue to support your children at home by reading at least 3 times per week with your child, the more reading miles the children get, the more fluent a reader they become.

### PE kits

We are now going to have our PE lessons on a **Monday** and **Tuesday** so please remember to send the correct PE kit in at the beginning of term and we will send it home at the end for washing.

### Homework

We will continue to send the spelling words out on a Friday for the spelling test the following Friday and a maths activity to access that links with the work we have been completing in school. I will also share the progress your child is making in phonics by sending home sounds they are yet to secure and the 'Harder to Read and Spell' words they need to practise for either reading or spelling.

**Children will continue be given 1 or 2 books each week and they must have their diary signed to say they have read both of their books before they can be changed.** This forms part of your child's weekly homework. Please send reading diaries and books to school each day so we can read with your child.

### Water bottles

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school **every day**.

### Supporting your child at home

Encourage use of useful websites on the school website under children/useful websites KS1. Please work through the common exception word sheets at home and practice any phonics your child is unsure of. Helping your child with counting to and back from 100 and encouraging them to write at home; helping write shopping lists or notes for people. I have also sent the 'Harder to Read and Spell' words which can be practised at any time and the phase 3 and 5 phonic sounds.

### **Here's to a happy and healthy 2026!**

Best wishes, Miss Arkley and Miss Turner ☺