



Stone

Church of England Combined School

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Building stepping stones to success



Design adapted from the children of Stone C of E School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 1! We hope that you all had a wonderful summer holiday and are ready for all the excitement that Year 1 has to offer. In this letter we hope to give you and your child an introduction to the next stage of their learning journey.

Hopefully, it will answer any questions you may have about the routines and learning activities that your child will be engaged in during the next academic year. However, please do come and ask us if there is anything that we have not included that you would like to know.

The Year 1 team

Miss Wheels will be the class teacher and Mrs Shurrock will be supporting the class.

Homework

Homework is very important this year. The children will be given regular home learning that will be given out weekly, on a Friday, and is due back in on the following Wednesday morning. Your child will be given a home learning book, in which all tasks will be written. Your child needs to take responsibility for his/her learning, developing a routine and making sure that home learning is not left to the last minute. Children should be able to complete their home learning independently and it should not take them more than one and a half hours.

Every week, your child will receive spelling words and number bonds to learn, as well as two tasks that will be related to their work in class. There will be a spelling test every Wednesday. The spelling test will be done at the back of your child's home learning book, in order for you to monitor their progress and recap any words of which they are unsure.

Reading

Reading is an important part of your child's home learning and they should be reading for at least 10 minutes daily. Your child should be encouraged to read for pleasure at home and make time for reading a variety of texts: stories, information texts, magazines, newspapers, poetry, recipes, instructions, lists, cartoons, brochures, etc.

This year we will continue using the reading record booklet where you and your child will be encouraged to write comments about their reading progress. In Year 1, many children enjoy reading silently. However, it is still really important for them to read aloud regularly in order to discuss the content of what they have read. This will improve their comprehension, broaden their vocabulary and allow them to develop their skills of empathy and deduction. We would appreciate **at least** one comment by an adult weekly and for the children to record what they have read each day.

As a class, we will visit our fantastic brand new library every **Tuesday**. In this time, the teachers and teaching assistants will be supporting the children in selecting appropriate books. Each week your child will bring home a library book that they can swap in weekly library sessions. Once they have completed the grey book band books, they will be considered 'Free readers' and will be expected to read a book of their own choice at home. We hope that this will encourage the children to love reading as much as we do!

Mathematics

In Year 1, the children need to develop confidence in using and applying their knowledge of the topics that they will be covering in class.

Language

Try to use lots of different words for maths operations, for example for addition we use the words 'add' 'total', 'altogether', 'plus'.

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" Philippians 4:3



For subtraction we use 'minus', 'take away', 'leaves', 'remains' 'subtract'.
For showing a total, we say 'equals', 'is the same as', 'makes', 'sum'.
For multiplication we use 'groups of', 'times' 'multiples', 'sets' 'arrays'.
For division we use 'shared between', 'divided by'.

Number

By the end of Year 1, children are expected to be able to 'add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including zero.'

Children learn through so many different ways and it is helpful to give them lots of practical experiences outside school of counting forwards and backwards and not necessarily from zero! You can count objects and use them to add and subtract: this helps children to relate numbers to all manner of things, eg: "I had 19 lego bricks and now I've subtracted 8. How many do I have left?"

Number bonds

Helping your child to learn addition and subtraction facts to 10 and regularly going over them will benefit them enormously.

They should know them well enough to give 'quickfire' answers when they are jumbled up. (eg "8 and what makes 10?" "What is 10 take away 4?"). This can be done on car journeys or whenever you have 5 minutes to spare.

Measures

Talk to them about how heavy or light an object feels by comparing objects and letting them hold them in their hands. Look at how much longer/shorter/taller/wider different objects are. Let them help you to wash up plastic containers and talk about how empty/full they are.

Get them to estimate how much a liquid a container will hold: "If I pour this water into the jug, do you think it will be half full, less than half full/more than half full?" etc. Children often find estimating very difficult to do. Let them help you cook: "Can you pour enough milk in the jug so that it is half full?"

Have fun!

Play board/card games: Snap with numbers is good for helping children to recognise numerals. Snakes and Ladders is a firm family favourite and really helps children to count on. Dice help children relate symbols to numbers, so any games such as Ludo or Frustration are good. Dominoes are also good for this reason and children love to play with them. Monopoly is fantastic for money work. Connect 4 is great for predicting and problem solving. Uno is also a good maths card game that helps with number and problem solving.

Useful websites.

www.mathsisfun.com

www.topmarks.co.uk

<http://primarygamesarena.com>

www.nrich.maths.org

Number and Place Value

By the end of Year 1, children are expected to 'count to and across 100, forwards and backwards, from any given number, read and write numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and words, count, read and write numbers to 100 in numerals, count in different multiples, including ones, twos, fives and tens, identify one more or one less than a given number, use the language of equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most and least, identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations, including the number line.

Addition and Subtraction

By the end of Year 1, children are expected to 'read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and the equals (=) sign, represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20, add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including 0, solve one-step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations, solve missing number problems such as $7 = ? - 9$.'

Multiplication and Division.

By the end of Year 1, children are expected to 'solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division using objects, with support, solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division using pictures, with support, solve one-step problems involving multiplication and division using arrays, with support.

PE

PE lessons will always take place on a Monday and a Thursday. Please ensure that the children have their PE kit at school on these days. Please avoid wearing any jewellery on these days.

Creative curriculum

Our topic this half term is 'Magnificent Me'. In History, the children will be learning about how toys and technology have changed throughout history. We have arranged for a 'WOW' day 'A Teddy Bear Picnic' for the children to bring in their favourite teddies and toys. Parents are invited to share this wonderful experience with their children. We welcome parents to bring in any favourite toys that they might have at home.

If you have any queries about anything I have mentioned in this letter or indeed anything else you would like to talk about, please feel free to see me in the playground after school.

Kind regards

Miss Wheels