

Class 1 Autumn Term Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year and the Foundation Stage/ Year 1 class. We will be known as Class 1.

We hope that you all had a lovely Summer Holiday after a very strange end to our academic year?

This year we will continue to support your children to develop all their talents and to make the most of every day in school to help them catch up with any areas of the curriculum that they may have missed due to being at home.

If you have any questions or concerns at all, please do not hesitate to contact me or speak to a member of the Class 1 team.

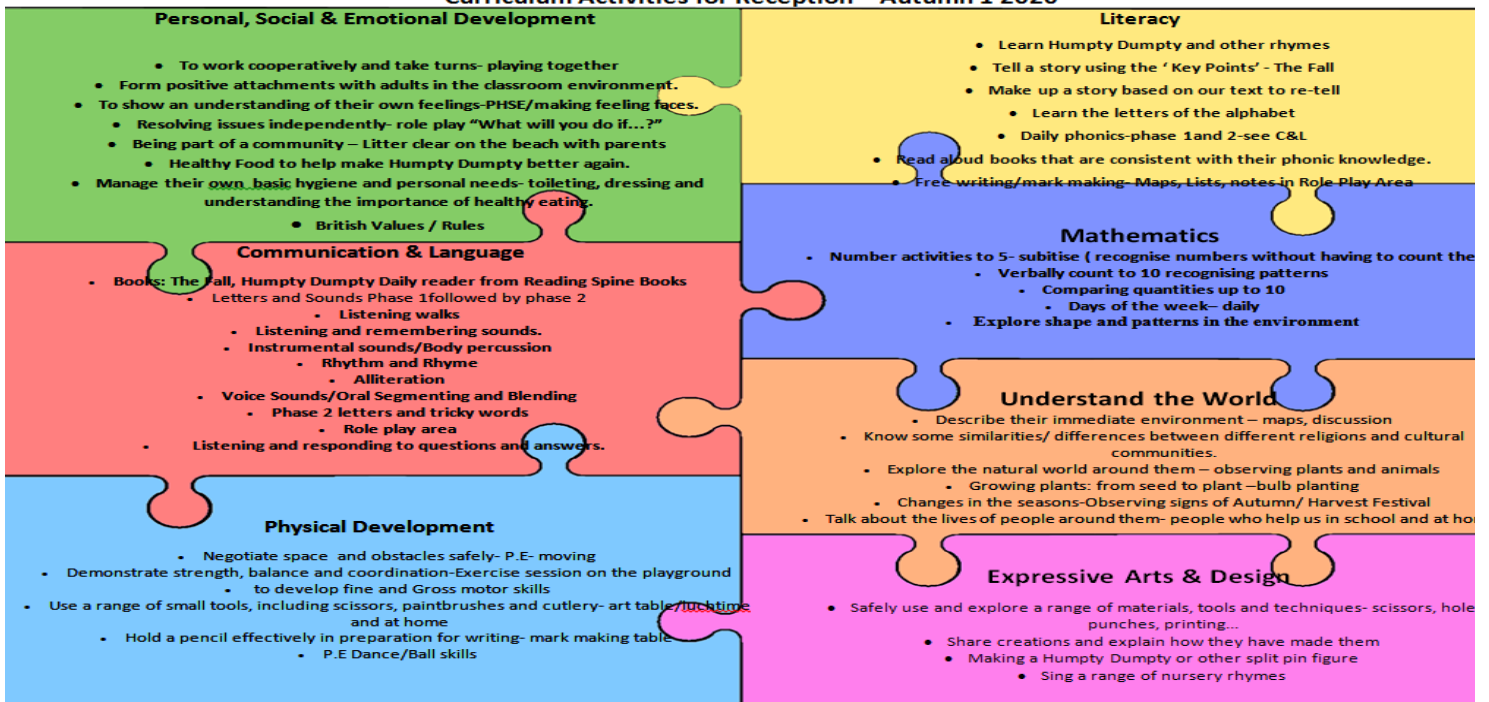
Mrs Bourn: Class Teacher

Mrs Rumson: Teaching Assistant

Foundation Stage Curriculum

The children develop their learning through a mix of play-based activities and teacher led sessions. They are continually observed and assessed to see how they are progressing in all 7 areas of the Curriculum. Children are encouraged to engage in activities both indoors and outdoors, becoming more independent in their learning and self-discovery as they develop the skills and the confidence to do so. The first three Areas are particularly crucial for children to achieve to enable them to learn in the Specific Areas and strive to achieve the Early Learning goals for the 7 areas of the Curriculum at the end of the Foundation Stage year.

Curriculum Activities for Reception – Autumn 1 2020



Year 1

Year 1 will be following the Year 1 Curriculum Targets in all curriculum areas. I will also be observing and assessing to adjust the planning to address any areas that may need revisiting. This will enable your child to be confident to move on to the next learning step.

Your child will also access some of their learning through curriculum provision.

Class 1 Information (Relevant to both Year Groups)

Themes for Autumn term:

Where In The World

Animals Including Humans

Seasonal changes

Bonfire night

Celebrations

Harvest Festival

Christmas

Morning Routine

Our morning drop off routine has had to change. We can no longer let adults into the classroom. If your child becomes upset, please take them to the white steps and try to calm them. Once their peers are in, me or Mrs Rumson can help support them into class.

If your child is finding it difficult to settle, reassure them that you understand they are feeling anxious but you will be back for them at the end of the day. A member of the Class 1 team will then support your child. (Having had three children of my own, I know how distressing parting can be. We will send you a Dojo later in the day, to let you know how your child is getting on.)

If children are feeling anxious during the day and mention that they are missing their adult, I will suggest that they blow their adult a kiss. I explain that their adult will feel a flutter on their cheek and that will let them know that they are being thought of. If your child asks you if you felt a flutter on your cheek, you will now understand what they are talking about.

Physical Education

P.E. will be on a Thursday afternoon, please make sure your child comes to school wearing their P.E Kit. We will have outdoor P.E whatever the weather, so tracksuit bottoms, sturdy trainers and a waterproof coat are imperative.

Every morning we will start the day with "Funky Fingers" followed at some point during the morning, by a daily "Exercise" session on the playground, to help develop the fine and gross motor movements needed for writing and letter formation.

Reading

Just a few minutes reading with your child each day makes a huge difference. We ask all parents to have discussions with your child about the book they are reading/sharing with you. I will pop tasks in their blue books or on Class Dojo for them to complete at home.

Please ensure your child has their reading book in school every day and that they have had their Love Reading Diary book signed.

We will also send a Love Reading Book home; this is to be shared with your child, as you would a library book.

We will use lots of opportunities to read with your child throughout the day. Modelling how important reading is to help us understand the world in which we live.

Combe Martin Library is also fantastic place to encourage readers! It gives your child the opportunity to choose their own books and build up a love of reading. Even better, if they see you getting a book at the same time.

Please do not forget the value of reading a bedtime story to your child. Sharing a book builds a love of reading and lots of happy memories to look back on in years to come.

The Outdoor Classroom

What might look like a play area, is in actual fact an amazing learning environment which gives children the opportunity to experience the weather, investigate, problem solve, build language skills and realise that learning can take place anywhere. Please respect our outside classroom and discourage siblings from playing in it at pick up time.

Your child will be outside everyday and may get messy. Please can you ensure that your child has a named waterproof coat. A pair of wellington boots may be brought into school if the weather is very inclement. That way we can use our outdoor classroom everyday.

Home Learning

Your child will normally get home learning (Relevant to their Year Group) on Fridays to be completed and returned by the following Wednesday. Their home learning will usually consist of some sound or number work. Please support your child with his/her home learning. It will either come in a paper format, or be sent via Class Dojo or Google Classroom. To be specified at a later date.

Phonic Information

We send home the phonic focus for the week so that Parents and Carers are able to support children at home. The information sent home may include phonic sheets or games to help the children to recognise letters, linking the letters with the correct sound and to explore objects at home beginning with the particular sound. We will also send home tricky words for your child to learn to read and write.

Year 1 children will have weekly spelling checks that coincide with their phonic phase. Information about these will be sent home at a later date.

During the year I will organize parent/carer drop/video/zoom in sessions, to enable you to see how the children approach their phonic sessions at Combe Martin School.

Sea School

At the moment we are unable to facilitate Sea School, but as soon as the Government give us the Go ahead, I will attempt to set up some sessions.

Clothing

May I please remind everyone that all clothing needs to be labelled clearly so that if lost, it can be returned easily?

Children should be wearing sensible black shoes (not trainers) to school.

PE kit consists of a white polo shirt, black or navy shorts or jogging bottoms, plimsoles and trainers.

A spare change of clothes will enable your child to change if they have an accident, instead of us having to call you. I am afraid we no longer have spare clothes on site. Thank you for your continued support.

Contact

If your child is unable to come to school or you are running late, please phone and let the office know.

If you or your child has a problem, you can inform me by Class Dojo before school, or arrange a meeting.

I am available to talk to after school or in an emergency, before school. I try to discourage the latter, so time can be given to help your child settle in to their morning routine.

Please make sure you are signed up to Class Dojo and the School Newsletter, this will help keep you up to date with what is going on in and around school. (We try our best to keep it up to date.)

Trips

At the present moment we are unable to facilitate school trips.

Fund raising

Over the year, we hold several fund raising events, some for school and some supporting other charities. We attempt to give as much notice as possible, so that you can budget accordingly. For example, at Christmas, the children usually make a craft object to sell at Carols in The Playground.

Please do not feel obliged to send in a donation, but every little helps.

Celebrations

We love to invite parents and carers to help us celebrate. At the moment we will be unable to organise group gatherings, but we will be using technology to video class celebrations.

PPA

Mrs Vickery will be covering my PPA time on a Wednesday afternoon. This will enable me to carry out my planning, preparation and assessment.

We hope your child enjoys being back at school. Remember if as adults we are calm, positive and act as if everything is okay, your children will find it easier to settle into their new routine.

If you have any worries or concerns, please feel free to ring the school office or Dojo me.

Mrs Bourn