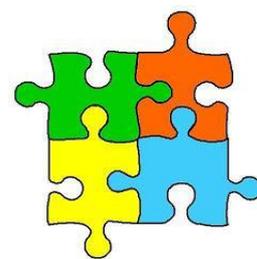


# New Invention

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Laying the foundation of learning



## Key Stage 1 - Transfer from Reception to Year One Classes

The following information will hopefully assist a smooth transition from Reception to Year One for you and your child. If you have any questions that are not answered by this leaflet, please feel free to see any of the Year One Team, Mrs Travis or Mrs Naffati after school.

We will be having a short meeting at 2.50 on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 to talk to you about any changes in school that your child may encounter when they move into Key Stage One. This meeting will give you the opportunity to meet the teachers who will be working with your child during the forthcoming year, and the chance to ask any questions you may have about their transition into a new class.

### Meet the team!

Our school operates an open-door policy. The Headteacher and other key staff are always available to see you, just enquire at the school office if you would like to chat; we are all here to help whenever we can. If we are here, we will see you. If you would like to be sure of an appointment, please phone the school office to arrange a time to suit you.

### Useful Contacts:

					
Headteacher: Mrs C. Travis	Assistant Headteacher: Mrs D. Naffati	Office Staff: Mrs R. Jeffs	Parent Support Advisor: Mrs J. Hill	Office Staff: Mrs H Turnbull	SENCo: Mrs Z. Spencer

### Year One Staff

					
Jellyfish Teacher Mrs N. Brown	Jellyfish TA Mrs D. Baker	Seahorse Teacher Mr M. Lloyd	Seahorse TA Mrs K. Kataria	Stingray Teacher Miss L. Doyle	Stingray TA Mrs E. Banks

## Independence

In Reception the teaching assistants assist the children to put away book bags, and check to ensure the children have not got any important letters or monies inside that need handing in to the teacher. During the year we try to teach the children to become more independent, learn how to undertake these organisational tasks for themselves, and gradually become able to take charge of their own belongings.

Once children enter Year One the teachers are more proactive about encouraging independence, and your child will be expected to perform certain tasks themselves that they may have become used to adults helping them with. There is always someone on hand if children get in a muddle, but we try to encourage children to be more responsible and develop resilience. Common tasks of this nature may be:

- Handing in letters such as trip letters
- Handing in money such as snack, milk or trip money
- Getting their own reading books and diary out of their book bags for reading sessions
- Searching for lost belongings - it is really helpful if you can make sure that all your child's belongings are clearly named

Monday is the most common day for handing in some of the above. It can be helpful to remind your child of anything you have put in their book bag so that they are confident about what they need to hand in.

Don't forget your child will be entering school through a different entrance! Year One children enter through the blue gate in-between the dining room and Stingray Classroom. Sometimes they put their lunch-box away before going on to their classroom to hang up their coat and put away their book bag.

Cloakroom space is very limited, therefore we ask you **not** to provide your child with an additional bag or backpack if at all possible. Pump-bags should be small enough to enable coats to hang alongside them on pegs, again, not a backpack please.

Please ensure children do not carry water bottles in their book bag as unexpected leaks can ruin your child's reading book. A small charge is made for books or equipment that are spoilt or lost.

**Milk** - please remember that milk unfortunately has to be paid for when your child reaches their fifth birthday. This is 25p per day.



## Clubs

Children in Year One become eligible to take part in our wide range of extra-curricular activities. Please encourage your child to take advantage of these enriching activities. They are very enjoyable, help with the acquisition of many new skills, and open up opportunities for your child to shine in a new area. Clubs are also a good way for your child to meet children from other classes and year-groups so that they can extend their friendship group.

These clubs are heavily subsidised by the school and we ask for a small contribution of £2 per term towards costs. I hope you will agree that this is very good value at only 33p per session!

If your child is registered for pupil premium this charge does not apply. Your fees will be met out of our pupil premium allocation.



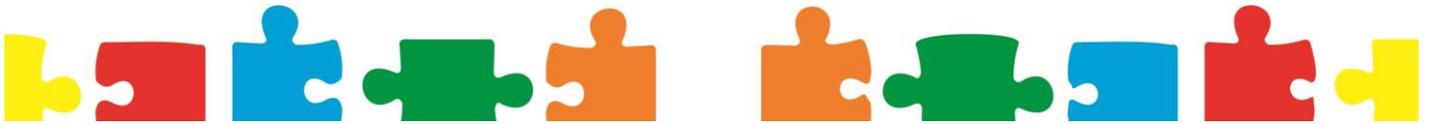
## 'Turn-Around'

One afternoon per week our classroom organisation differs from the rest of the week to allow staff to plan the forthcoming week together. This is the statutory planning and preparation time that all teachers are entitled to.

On these afternoons the children undertake three lessons, one in each Year One classroom, with other school staff, hence the name 'Turn-Around!' The three skills lessons are:

- Handwriting - led by Mrs Mercy in Seahorse Classroom
- ICT - led by Mrs Hunt in Stingray Classroom
- Music - led by Miss Festa in Jellyfish Classroom

Your child will be dismissed by these teachers at the end of the school day.



## Choir and Singing Squad

We invite all children in Year One to audition for our school choir, or to become part of our Singing Squad. Both of these opportunities are not only very enjoyable but also have many 'hidden' educational benefits!

Singing encourages a child to express their emotions and sharpens their ability to communicate while exercising lip and tongue movement. But one of the biggest benefits of singing is the repeated use of the 'memory muscle'. Learning a piece of information attached to a tune embeds that information more rapidly in a child's mind. The majority of children learn the alphabet not by simply saying the letters but singing them!

Singing is, of course, not something that has to be done alone. Learning to work together in a group or choir can give children a sense of collectiveness and can help children make friends.

Our choir perform at whole school functions such as the Christmas Carol Concert. Singing Squad children are budding 'ambassadors' who promote the benefits of singing to the rest of the school, leading singing and clapping songs in the playground. They wear distinctive purple caps so that children who would like to join in can find them easily!



## Eco Warriors

Each class in the school chooses a representative to become a member of our 'Eco-Warrior' Team.

Their mission is to help make our school sustainable and to bring about behaviour change in our young children and their families so that good habits learned in school are followed through into homes and communities. In addition, the Eco-School initiative enhances our caring school community. It is important to us that our children see that their views are valued and that action is taken in response to these views. Our school then becomes a place where children can make positive changes and to make a difference.



## Homework

As you know, we believe that education is a valuable partnership between home and school. We ask that you support your child's learning by helping them practise their reading for a few minutes every day, or at least three times a week. This constant practice and reinforcement is vital to help your child become a confident reader in the future, and is the most important part of our homework.



As part of our Learning Platform we have an on-line reading scheme, which is very engaging for extra practice at home, as the stories are often based around popular TV characters such as Angelina Ballerina or Ben 10. This scheme is available by following the link on our website. Teachers monitor how your child is progressing, and allocate new books when necessary. If your child is reading voraciously and needs their online library refreshing, please ask your child's teacher. They will be only too pleased to do this!

Phonics has a vital role to play in learning to read, but this method caters best for those children who are aural learners. The ability to sound out unknown words in order to read them is very important, but we teach our children a range of other methods to help them to tackle challenging texts too. Children are given flashcards to practise in advance of receiving reading books containing the same words, to help develop fluency. This method appeals particularly to children who are visual learners. Once children have completed learning Level Four sight vocabulary, we progress to learning spellings. Children will be given spelling lists to practice, and they will be tested every week in school. Sometimes children are able to spell words in these situations, but do not apply this skill in the classroom when they are writing for other purposes. Practising writing sentences that contain the key words the children are learning can sometimes help with this at home.

We also offer a wide selection of maths games for you to play at home with your child, and have a selection of talking books and pens that are offered as appropriate to the needs of your child. In addition, our Learning Platform contains many learning opportunities that are added specifically to help your child with the topics they are studying throughout the year, and this method of practising key skills seems to appeal particularly to children who are used to both working and playing in an exciting technological age! Using Purple Mash is one of the most popular links on our VLE, if you are looking for an initial activity to try.



## Phonics

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read quickly and skilfully. They are taught how to:

- recognise the sound (phoneme) that each individual letter makes;
- identify the sounds (phonemes) that different combinations of letters make - such as 'sh' or 'oo'; and
- blend these sounds (phonemes) together from left to right to make a word.

Children can then use this knowledge to 'de-code' new words that they hear or see.

When sharing reading books, encourage your child to 'sound out' unfamiliar words and then blend the sounds together from left to right BEFORE looking at the pictures to help to make an informed guess. If your child is still struggling, an additional aid can be to 'read around' the other words in the sentence and then go back to see if this helps when trying to work out the new word. Other methods rather than phonics are especially useful when encountering a particularly complex new word. For example, if you tried to sound out the individual phonemes in the word 'lighthouse' you would not be able to 'guess' the word, as it has too many complex phonemes within it. Once your child has read an unfamiliar word you can talk about what it means and help him or her to follow the story.

In the Summer term all children have to undertake a national Phonic Test. This test encompasses all 44 phonemes that children use to read and also the different letters that can represent a word. For example the letters ir, ur and er all make the same sound! This sound can be seen in words such as bird, burn, and fern.

Stickers are added to reading diaries weekly to indicate which sound your child is currently learning. Practising this at home will help your child to succeed in this important skill. Word games like 'I-spy' can also be an enjoyable way of teaching children about sounds and letters. You can also encourage your child to read words from your shopping list or road signs to practise phonics.



### Free School Money and Pupil Premium Funding

From September 2014 all of our children have been offered a free school lunch. Children at the Junior School are also offered a free meal if their parent is receiving any of the welfare benefits listed on the accompanying form.

Even though your child is entitled to receive a free meal, registering for free meals could raise an extra £1,300 for our school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the welfare benefits listed in the form. It is therefore important to sign up for Pupil Premium Funding, even if your child is in reception, Year 1 or Year 2, so that our school receives as much funding as possible.



### Topics

Topics studied in Year One are as follows:

Autumn Term: The Seaside, Toys

Spring Term: Sound, Growth

Summer Term: Mini-Beasts, The Park

Leaflets containing further details about these topics will be issued throughout the year.



### Parent Views



We want your child to be happy in school, make excellent progress and build positive friendships. Please let us know if you have any concerns we can help with, and give us a chance to put it right. If we can change things, we will. If we can't, we will explain why. We are always anxious to improve things so that we can be as good as we can be. All ideas are welcome!

If you have any other suggestions about additional services we can offer, such as more information about our curriculum in school, new initiatives or training you would like us to arrange, we would love to hear from you.

We have a thriving 'Friends of New Invention' team, who meet half-termly to plan social events and fund-raising activities for the school. If this idea interests you, please let us know at the school office.

You can also speak to your parent and other Governor Representatives:  
Mr J. Haldron, Mr M. Kelly, Miss S. Small, Mrs N. Mills or Mrs J Riley

Ofsted are always interested in your views and continually monitor how parents feel about the work we do. They do this via a website called Parent View. If you would like to visit the website, and fill in a short form, the address is <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>  
A link is also available on our school website.



### Don't Forget! - Volunteers

We welcome parents and carers into the classroom to support the children whilst they work. An extra pair of hands in a busy classroom can be invaluable to help with practical tasks, or give a child a little extra practice with their reading. If you are interested in becoming a regular classroom helper, please inform your class teacher. In line with our safeguarding regulations, a DBS check will need to be undertaken before you will be able to start. Training sessions will be offered to you to enable you to feel confident about any challenges the classroom may offer!



You can follow all the exciting things we do at school and on educational visits on twitter and by following our news blog on the school website.

Go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) or get the App on your Andriod or iPhone.

Our school twitter id is - inventioninfant

