



# FIR BANK PRIMARY

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*Co-Head Teachers: Rachael McLaughlin & Robert Walker*

Welcome to Blue Class.

The children have settled in wonderfully after the summer break and we are extremely proud of them all.

In Blue Class the adults that help us are Miss Wood, Mrs Derbyshire, Mrs Bull and Mrs Mellor. We also have Mrs Dale who teaches us R.E and P.S.H.E on a Monday afternoon and Mrs Matthews who teaches us P.E on a Tuesday afternoon.

### Our day

In the morning we have a snack, then phonics, followed by Literacy then Maths. In the afternoons we have topic time which includes subjects such as Science, R.E, Computing, P.E, P.S.H.E, Geography, History, Art and Music. In our class we learn in a variety of ways; we have small focus groups, independent learning, paired learning and learning as a whole class.

### Things to remember:

Please ask your child to put any letters or homework in the box labelled Blue Class on the table by the door. You may want to help them to do this for the first few weeks.

**Monday:** spellings and words to learn for the following Monday (spelling check)

**Tuesday:** PE (we encourage kits to be kept in school each half term). Please put your child's name in the kit.

**Friday:** Fun Friday - children can bring a sensible toy to school

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday:** reading books are changed when they have been read three times. The children need to put their **Reading Record** (with their reading books inside) into the **green basket** on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday depending on whether they have read and had their book signed. Please remind your child to do this as we are encouraging the children to become more independent as they progress through Year 1.

### Reading Books:

Reading books will be changed on a **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. Please make sure books are sent into school every day to allow for extra reading opportunities within school. Books will only be changed if the Reading Record is signed. We ask that parents/carers support reading at home with their children as regularly as possible. Children learn to read best using a variety of approaches.



Examples of other reading opportunities that children enjoy include:

- Comics and magazines
- Books linked to children's hobbies
- Their favourite stories and books
- Stories from around the world, different cultures, faiths and world history
- Newspapers
- Day to day reading which may include signs and labels e.g when out and about, for example at the supermarket.

### **Phonics:**

The teaching of phonics is one aspect of a range of methods used to teach reading and spelling in Blue Class. Phonics is taught on a daily basis. The children are encouraged to apply the phonics to their reading and writing within the curriculum. Please feel free to look at the Letters and Sounds scheme online where you will find a variety of resources to support your child's learning.

### **Maths:**

Please encourage your child to learn multiplication and division facts so that your child can use them to help solve maths problems. In Year 1 the expectation is that children should know their 2, 5 and 10 timetables facts.

### **Homework:**

Home learning is an important part of the partnership between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that home learning is a key method in which children can acquire the skills of independent learning.

- The children are given a reading book to take home and read.
- Children are given weekly spellings to learn. Please help your child to learn the words and sounds at home. We will have a brief spell check on the following Monday.
- Your child will be given a log in for Purple Mash in the next few weeks which is a website that hosts many different activities for your child to learn and engage with.

### **Water Bottles:**

Your child is encouraged to bring a full water bottle to school each day to drink throughout the day. We encourage the children to take them home at the end of each day, rinse them and bring them back into school full the following day.

Thank you for your support.

The Blue Class Team