



Welcome to Year 1

Important Information

- Please look at the school website for all of the diary dates for the year.
- School website link: www.wickfordprimary.uk
- Our year group email is Y1-21@wickford-pri.essex.sch.uk please use this for communication with your class teachers. This will be checked on a weekly basis.
- For urgent matters, please send your queries to admin@wickford-pri.essex.sch.uk or speak to an adult at the start or end of the day.

Helpful Reminders

- Please name all personal items (water bottles, clothing, coats, gloves, hats!)
- PE days are **Wednesday** and **Friday**. Please ensure that long hair is tied up (girls and boys), that earrings are removed and white t-shirt, black shorts/trousers and the green school jumper/fleece/cardigan is worn on these days.
- Home Learning for this term was given out on Tuesday 7th September and is expected back on Monday 18th October.
- Packed lunches are back! Please send lunchboxes in with a label and we encourage the use of a freezer brick on hot days.
- Water bottles need to have a spill proof lid please.
- We do not encourage the children to bring items from home into school due to loss and damage.

Home Learning

- Reading for about 5 to 10 minutes, aloud to an adult regardless of your child's reading band and fluency as often as you can (daily is best!).
- We will try our best to hear your child read at least once per week. Once we have heard them read to us, we will write in their reading record. Please ensure reading books and reading diaries are in school every day and that you are listening to your child read and recording this in their diary as much as possible.
- Home learning bingo will run each half-term. This half-term, choose 6 out of the 8 activities.
- Spellings are on the school website on the Year 1 Home Learning page. Please practise these at home. Spelling tests are completed on a Friday.
- Children have a home learning book which is where all home learning will be recorded (bingo & spellings).

How can you help your child?

Please continue to encourage your child to be as independent as possible. Having a 'growth mindset' is essential for children to progress. We always try to show resilience and tackle challenges in the context of learning.

Reading

We really want to foster a love of reading and appreciate your support with this at home. The children should read from a wide range of genres and in different contexts. Using the local library and sharing more challenging texts with your child will also benefit them – you are never too old to be read a bedtime story! There will also be allocations of books on Bug Club this half term – it is an excellent tool to access.

- Read to your child to encourage a love of reading. Listen to your child read as often as possible (daily is best!) encouraging them to choose a range of books and texts at home or from the library.
- Read books for pleasure to your child and ask your child to read the banded books to you.
- Encourage the use of phonetic sounds (not each letter name) when children are unfamiliar with the words. Reading fluently is essential for the children to master.

- Ask questions about what they have read - use the coloured bookmarks in their reading dairies to help with this.

Writing

- Practise the weekly spellings (available on the school website Year 2 Home Learning page), which will support both reading and writing.
- Ensure your child is able to write both, their first name and their surname!
- Continue to support your child with their handwriting. The overall aim is for children to have clear writing We would expect clear capital letters larger than lower case letters, writing on the line, clear ascenders and descenders, and flicks and curves to support joining.
- Support children with editing their written work for punctuation and applying their knowledge of phonics and patterns with spelling.

Maths

- Practice counting in different ways - 0-100, 100-0, 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s etc
- Use every day opportunities such as using money, telling the time, estimating, weighing and measuring.
- Children are encouraged to wear watches (apart from smart watches) to school and to tell the time on an analogue clock.

Well-being

Talk to your child about what they have done during the day. Ensure that there are opportunities for them to listen to you too! Talking through the day is a really important part of supporting your child's well-being and all-round mental health. Remember that your child will have a view of the day that may differ to others and if there is anything at all you are concerned about, listen carefully and then find a time to discuss this with your class teacher.

For further information, please see our school website (www.wickfordprimary.uk) or class teachers can be contacted through the email address (Y1-21@wickford-pri.essex.sch.uk) The website also has all letters including the weekly newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Vanner, Mrs Sidimoussa and Miss Souter

