

New to Year 1 Information - Caterpillars

We have put together some information for parents of children moving into Year 1 at Reigate Parish Church School. General school information is contained in the Welcome Book you received when your child started at Reigate Parish. This information is intended to be specific for the year group. Curriculum information will be given early in the new school year at an evening meeting and will continue to come home every half term. Teachers' planning is also on display in the classroom. Monday evening 'drop ins' (3.05 pm - 3.30 pm) will continue, providing the opportunity for informal chats with the teacher and a chance to admire work on display.

Ms Crocker is both Deputy Head and Special Needs Co-ordinator and, as such, has management release time which means on a Thursday and Friday the class will be taught by Mrs Jagtiani. Mrs Jagtiani is a part-time teacher in the school and works closely with Ms Crocker to ensure continuity for the children.

As you know, we have a no strawberry policy in school. This is to safeguard children and adults with strawberry allergies.

Your child's class teacher, Ms Crocker, is amongst those with a strawberry allergy. In her case she has a severe allergy and exposure to strawberries in any form can lead to a reaction that can only be controlled by the use of an adrenalin epipen. We have discovered that she can react when she comes into contact with someone who has previously eaten strawberries in some form eg strawberry jam on toast for breakfast.

Ms Crocker follows a vigorous preventative regime and whilst we cannot ever keep her totally strawberry free, we would like your help.

Without spoiling breakfast time, please could strawberries, strawberry jam and yoghurts be avoided. We know that this is not always easy, but it will help prevent allergic reactions. This would apply to packed lunches, too.

We would very much welcome your support with this for Ms Crocker's health and well-being.

Equipment needed in Year 1:

Every child needs a long-sleeved **art apron**, preferably waterproof and a named school sun hat.

PE kit should include plimsolls, navy shorts, team-colour plain t-shirt and navy tracksuit bottoms. Please check every half term that the plimsolls still fit.

***All of the above must be clearly named and be in school from the first day of term.* VERY IMPORTANT.**

Your child may bring a **bottle of water** to have during the school day. It must be named, have a 'sports' top and be taken home daily to be refreshed.

Please do not let your child bring in a pencil case: there are plenty of pens, colours, rubbers etc in school and things from home tend to get lost.

No jewellery is to be worn except stud earrings for pierced ears and they must be removed on PE days. Staff do not remove or replace earrings for children: this must be done at home.

Hair bands, clips and elastics must be plain, preferably blue and remain in the hair!

Children who are really beginning to tell the time may wear a named, inexpensive analogue (traditional dial face) watch. Watches worn as fashion accessories or with alarms etc may not be brought to school. All watches have to be removed before PE lessons.

As before, toys are not to be brought to school unless by request of the class teacher for a class project.

In order to keep the home readers and library books in good condition, please remember to use your book bag for books only and a rucksack for everything else.

Celebration assembly - your child may bring in certificates or awards achieved outside school to be celebrated during our Friday assembly.

Show and tell

Please encourage your child to bring in things related to their class topic. Show and tell is on Monday and is designed to allow the children to share topic-related or special occasions with the class.

Routines:

Class	PE	Reading Books	Library Books	Words of the week	Other homework - after Christmas
Caterpillars	Monday and Thursday	Changed every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.	Friday	Given on a Monday to learn during the week and then tested on Friday.	Maths and writing alternate every other Wednesday, to be given in the following Wednesday.
Grasshoppers	Monday and Wednesday	Reading record books are checked regularly and should therefore be in their bag each day.	Wednesday	Verbally during the first term. Written in the final two terms.	

Parent helpers

All parents are very welcome to help in their child's class. Parents are asked to help in a variety of activities from reading with individual children to helping a group with a maths game or art activities. Please see your class teacher if you are able to help. If you are not able to make a regular commitment, which can be as little as half an hour a week, then you may be able to help with class outings. Please ensure you are CRB checked - the office has information regarding this.

In September we will be inviting parent helpers to an induction/training session to answer any queries about the helper role and give ideas on how best to support the children you work with.

To encourage more independence now the children are in Year 1, we always ask parents to say goodbye in the playground rather than walk down to the classroom in the mornings.

Extra activities available in Year 1:

French Club: letter to follow.

Fulham Football coaching sessions: this is mainly for Year 2 children but Year 1 children are offered coaching in the summer term. It is a six-week course after school, and this year it has been on Wednesdays. This is how we expect it to continue, but it is not guaranteed!

Drama Club: letter to follow