



Welcome to Year 1!

Miss Sparkes

Autumn Term 2014

Welcome to all of the parents and children of Year 1! I hope that you all had a lovely summer holiday and are ready for another exciting school year.

RE is always at the heart of our learning. This term our RE topics are the following:

- **Families**

We will learn that everyone belongs to the family of God. We will talk about our own families and the differences between them. Children will understand that God loves and cares for us.

- **Belonging**

We will explore the different groups that we belong to. Children will learn that Baptism enables us to belong to God's family in a special way. We will visit the church to find out what happens during a Baptism.

- **Waiting**

We will learn that Advent is a time of waiting in joyful hope for Jesus. We will explore the story of Christingle and find out why God sent Jesus to us.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **International Evening:** 19th September
- **Parents Consultations:** 14th, 15th September
- **Sea Life Visit:** 24th September
- **Year 1 Nativity:** 8th December
- **Christmas Jumper Day:** 12th December



Hit The Deck!

This year at BRW we are celebrating the year of **Adventure** and as a class we will be going on many journeys of discovery throughout the year. Our first adventure is called **Hit the Deck**, where we will be finding out about the life and times of pirates.

Year 1 will start their journey by learning about the continents and oceans that pirates have explored. They will use globes, atlases to locate a range of countries. They will then create their own treasure maps and islands using compass directions and coordinates to find and locate their buried treasure!

We will then design and build both large and small scale pirate ships using a range of materials and joining techniques. These ships will then be put to the test as they set sail. Will they float or will they sink?

As we find out more about life on a pirate ship, the children will develop their observational skills as they begin to sketch a range of boats and ships. They will select and add appropriate colours to their designs which will then be displayed in our very own **Gallery**.

As we all know, pirates love to dance! Year 1 and 2 will work collaboratively with Miss Smith to choreograph a Pirates of the Caribbean inspired dance. This will then be showcased at the end of the

Autumn Term.

The children will use their historical enquiry skills to find out more about famous pirates such as Blackbeard, Anne Bonny and Francis Drake. They will share their learning as they produce an information book.

We will then go on a journey to the bottom of the deep blue sea as we find out about the food chains and habitats of sea creatures. The children will have the opportunity to come face to face with a range of sea life as we visit the National Sea Life Centre in Birmingham.

With daily pirate problems to solve and a term full of adventures, I am sure that Year 1 just can't wait to get started!



PE:

This half term our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Our Tuesday session will focus on **games** outside and Friday's sessions are **dance** and then **football skills**. Children **must** have the correct PE kit in school:

Plain white t-shirt

Black shorts

Black plimsoles

Jumper for cold weather (plain hooded/zip up)

PE kits must be brought into school on Monday and taken home on Friday.



Earrings

Due to health and safety reasons earrings **must** be removed before all PE sessions. Please remove them before school if your child is not able to do this independently.

Reading Books:

All children will be given a reading book and record at the beginning of term. Please listen to your child read everyday and write a positive comment in the record book provided. Children should bring their reading book to school everyday.



Books will be changed on **Monday** and **Thursday**. If your child is not ready for a new book please leave a note in the reading record.

And finally...if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to me either before or after the school day.

I am looking forward to this busy and exciting term ahead!

Miss Sparkes