



Welcome to Year 1!

A big, warm welcome to Year 1!

I hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday and the children are excited to be joining our class. I am thrilled for a nice change being in Year 1 this year. We have some exciting topics that we study so I can't wait to get started!!

As a mother myself, I know how important it is to be able to contact your teacher if you have questions or concerns, so please don't hesitate to reach out either via phone or ask for a meeting face to face. I am always more than happy to help!

Year 1 Staff

Mrs Porter (Class Teacher)

This will be my fifth year at our school and, I have to say, I have thoroughly loved my time at BVPS so far! Before gaining my position here in 2020, I was in another school for a number of years and have lots of experience, both as a teaching assistant and a teacher. In addition to being the Year 1 class teacher, I am the subject leader for Maths and Art within school. I particularly enjoy teaching art and design and it is a passion I often take part in outside of school too! I really believe the children learn more when they are having fun, so I enjoy making lessons memorable- usually with a silly aspect- such as silly dances or songs! (Be prepared for lots of embarrassing stories!)

Mrs Smith (Class Teaching Assistant)

We are very lucky to have Mrs Smith working with our class full time this year. Mrs Smith has worked in Year 1 for many years, both in our school and previous schools. She has a great understanding of what is expected in Year 1 and how to help the children achieve these targets. She will be supporting in class each day, working with small groups of children and providing one-to-one support. In addition to this, Mrs Smith will be teaching on a Monday afternoon whilst I have planning time.

Mrs Whittaker (Class Teaching Assistant)

We are so fortunate this year, as Mrs Whittaker is moving with our class from Reception to Year 1. Mrs Whittaker knows the children extremely well and is invaluable for helping them with their transition this year. She knows exactly how to support and encourage the children to succeed. She will be supporting in class each day, working with small groups of children and providing one-to-one support.

Important Information for Year 1

PE Days

Year 1 pupils will have their PE sessions on **Wednesday and Friday afternoons**.

Pupils should bring their full PE kit and trainers (please see school website for details) at the start of term and leave it in their locker until the end of the half-term.

If at any point PE kits need to go home for cleaning/after-school PE club etc., please ensure that they return to school the next day.

Homework

Homework is a valuable way of enhancing your child's learning outside of the classroom as well as helping them to develop their independence and organisational skills.

Each child will receive a 'homework pack' that will contain their homework for the whole half term.

Year 1 pupils will receive the following homework:

Maths- Children will be receiving a piece of Maths homework each week. This homework will be given out on a **Friday**, and it will need to be returned the following **Friday**.

Spellings/Phonics – Every **Friday** children will receive 8 spellings which they will have to learn ready for a test the following **Friday**. These spellings will contain 6 words containing sounds we are focusing on in phonics that week. In addition, there will be 2 High Frequency word spellings. These are words that the children need to learn before the end of Year 1.

Please ensure children practise their spellings at home- this can be through games or written. Alongside this, pupils will work on these spellings during Phonics lessons in school. The children will also bring home a phonics sheet that they can practise, based off what we have learnt that week.

Reading – Reading really does support the children with so much of their learning. Because of this, pupils should try to read as frequently as possible. Children will be given their guided reading book to read, a free reader and will also have the opportunity to choose books from our school library. Please enjoy reading these books with your child and ensure they are returned when they are finished. We ask that you record when they have read in their reading diaries, so we can keep track of how much they are doing at home and can support where needed.

I really enjoyed teaching the children for our transition sessions in June and July! They are a delightful class and want to succeed! I am really excited to get to know them over the next year and for us to work as a team in supporting your children.

Kind regards,

Mrs Porter