



Our Year 1 Newsletter

Wednesday 6th September 2023

Welcome to Year 1

We trust that you all have had an enjoyable summer break and we would like to welcome you to Year 1. If you have had children in our year before at The Discovery School you will find that this term may be a little different than what you have experienced before.

We have been working hard to create an effective curriculum which will allow the pupils to continue to learn through play while challenging them and preparing them for the primary years that lay ahead of them. Mixing the best of EYFS with Key Stage One.

This term our topic will be 'Family and Feelings'. We are planning something exciting later in the term which we will write to you about soon.

An Average Day in Year 1

The children will participate in a range of short, engaging sessions throughout their days. These will include:

- Morning activities—a range of independent activities to develop skills they may have already started to build on in EYFS.
- Daily DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) reading session where an adult reads a text out loud to the class. They will focus on spelling, grammar and comprehension skills.
- Shared reading—similar to what they are used to in EYFS, the children will read texts together.
- Phonics—learning and practising their phonic skills.
- Maths—daily differentiated sessions.
- Handwriting—learning to use cursive.
- English—daily differentiated sessions.
- Plan, Learn, Review—similar to their EYFS session except our sessions will be more structured with intentions linked to each activity.
- Linked provisions—activities which are linked to our topic which they will complete through the week, either independently or

Reading

As you can tell from our daily sessions, reading is very important to us! We expect the children to read at home every night for at least 10 minutes.

Following a reading assessment with your child, we will issue two school reading books every Monday and Thursday.

Please make sure that you write or mark in your child's reading record to show that they have read. New books will only be issued once we can see that the current ones have been read.

Important Information

PE sessions this term will be on Wednesday for Darwin however these will not start immediately. We will send you dates for when they need to start to come into school in PE uniform.

The children will start Forest School sessions in week 2 of this term (details to follow from Mrs Chapman).

Our Staffing Team

Darwin:

- * Mrs Ismail—class teacher (Monday to Thursday) and Year 1 leader
- * Mrs Healey—class teacher (Thursday and Fridays).
- * Mrs Oakley—teaching assistant (everyday)
- * Mrs Wiggins—specialist TA