

Welcome to Year One

Teaching staff: Mrs Bullingham, Miss Brunt, Mrs Chapman & Mrs French

Topic

Our topic this term is Superheroes. We will be looking at fantasy and real-life superheroes as well as thinking about what makes us special. We will have a 'Superhero Day' towards the end of term where the children get to dress up, but we will send out details for that in the future.



PE

PE lessons will be on a Monday and Friday. Please have your PE kit (named) in school where it will be left until the end of term. PE will be mostly outside so please make sure they are wearing joggers/jumpers if the weather is colder.



WOW Vouchers

In your child's book bag this week there will be a few wow vouchers. These can be filled in at home for the children to share with the class back at school. It can be an achievement such as riding a bike, attending ballet lessons, sleeping in their own room, trying new foods or helping others. Any moment that you feel they have done particularly well in, is good to share. Every wow voucher earns them a house point too. (Extra Wow vouchers are available to print off the website or just ask us for a few more).

Jumpers, Coats etc

Children should have coats in school every day as the weather can be very changeable.

Please remember to **NAME ALL UNIFORM**. It is very difficult to return any item of clothing that does not have a name on.



Spellings & Phonics

Spellings will be sent home on a Friday in their reading diaries to support their learning the following week. Please help the children to read the words first, then try spelling them or putting them in a sentence. Maybe just a couple of words each time.

Soon there will be weekly phonics learning sheets available on the website so you can support your child at home. This is optional and does not need to be returned to school.

Independence

A key skill we are developing in Year One is independence. The children should be dressing themselves, toileting independently and organising their property in school. If you know your child struggles with getting dressed or wiping their own bottom, please give them the opportunity to practice at home. As a parent we know it can be easier to do it for them, but it is really important for their own development.

Each morning the children should bring to school, their book bag, water bottle and lunch box if necessary. (Please note we discourage rucksacks in KS1 due to space).

Reading

This is the single most important thing you can do with your child. Reading is key to a lot of the children's learning at this age and therefore daily reading helps them a lot. Children that fall behind in reading are often those that are not practicing.

In Year One we join the rest of the school with the reading challenge. We check how many times the children have read each Friday and get a percentage of how many children have read 3 times or more. The winning class gets a special reading treat at the end of term. Our aim is always 100% so please **read with your child and record it in the reading diary**.

The children will have a **Reading Passport** in the back of their reading diary that we will fill in each week if they have read three times. If they complete the page (two continents) by the end of each big term, they will win a reading treat. Your child's **reading books will be changed on a Friday** when they will be given 2 reading books for the week. You may feel that some of your child's reading books are too easy for them but Ofsted now tell us that the children should be able to read almost every word on their own (95% accuracy). Their reading at home with you should be to practice their fluency. The books should be read more than once to increase fluency. Alongside this they are welcome to read their own books at home and please remember you should read to your child too.

Please leave school reading books and the reading diary in their book bags daily as we often read with the children at school too.

Library books will be changed on a Friday. This will be recorded in the back of their reading diaries.



Ideas for reading at home

- You do not need to read the whole book, sometimes just a few pages is enough.
- Have a good time that works for you both (personally my daughter always liked to read at bedtime, whereas my son liked to read as soon as he got home so he could then play afterwards).
- Try a different place -e.g. under the bed, in the empty bath tub, in the garden, upside down on the sofa!
- Don't push it too much. Yes, your child must read at home but if they are tired, just do a few pages or share the reading as suggested below.
- You read, I read! - You could read the left pages, and they read the right side. You read the first sentence, they read the second and so on. You read but they need to follow as when you stop on a word, they have to read the word. You read the sentence, they then repeat after you (following the words with their fingers).
- Repeat reading - "You read that sentence so well, I bet you can't read it again? - Wow, that's amazing, well done!"
- Read different things, a recipe, a shopping list and your own books at home.
- Lots of praise.

Unwell?

Please remember if your child is unwell, keep them at home until you are sure they are well enough to come to school to make sure no illnesses spread. Sickness is 48 hours from the last time they were poorly. You will need to let school know first thing every morning that they are off.

It's good to talk...

Please remember that we are here if you have any questions or problems (however big or small). We are available at the end of most days for a quick chat or you can Edulink message us or email the office.
admin@leonardstanley.gloucs.sch.uk

We are really looking forward to a fantastic year!
Best wishes,
Mrs Bullingham, Miss Brunt, Mrs Chapman & Mrs French