



Part of PACE Academy Trust
New Valley Primary School

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to another school year; we hope you have all had a fabulous summer. Our children all seem to have enjoyed their new start and are already beginning to settle well into Year 1. Below are some general information, expectations and curriculum overviews for Year 1.

Homework

- **Half-termly Homework.** As part of ongoing home learning, the children will be given a journal to record their work. A home learning sheet will be given at the beginning of each half-term with 8 different challenges on. Parent input is encouraged and welcomed and you and your child can pick and choose which activities you would like to do.
- **Weekly Homework: Fluency Task.** Each Monday, the children will receive a fluency task for maths involving some basic number facts that need to be practiced. The child will be assessed on these at the end of the week and their learning will be sent home, please keep practicing these.
- **Weekly Homework: Spelling and recognition task.** Each week, a list of *High Frequency Words* and phonics spellings will be sent home for the children to learn.

Reading

- Please record any reading your child does at home in their reading records. We aim to change books twice a week but if books need changing before then, please speak to a member of staff.
- At New Valley, we really emphasise the importance of your children developing a love of reading. Reading with your children on a regular basis, can help to develop fluency, comprehensions skills, language development and creativity. It is important to **talk about the book**, so that comprehension skills are developed and children understand what the book is about.
- We have also got a 'books of the week' box where children can choose a story book to bring home and share.

PE

- Year 1 will be having PE on a **Tuesday** and a **Friday**. Please can kit be brought in on the Monday and be kept in school all week to ensure that it is not forgotten. Please ensure your child has the correct kit and that it is NAMED.
- The class will be taught by a specialist sports coach for one lesson a week, focusing on multi-skills and games. Their other PE lesson will be covering a variety of different sports and skills, with a focus on fundamental movement skills in the first term to help with physical development.
- Year 1 will have swimming lessons during the **summer term**.



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Communication

- Communication is a key element in ensuring that our children have a happy and successful time in New Valley. A staff member will be at the classroom door at the start and end of the school day where you can pass on messages and talk with class teacher if you would like to discuss anything. The best days for speaking with the class teacher are Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Any small reminders will be communicated through notices put on our class door in the playground – please keep an eye out for them!
- WOW moments from home, can be written on a slip which can then be shared with the class. Similarly, we will have a WOW slip in class that will be sent home.

Expectations

- In New Valley, we have very high expectations for behaviour, and therefore this will be a key emphasis throughout the year, in order reflect the New Valley Values.
- Attendance is fundamental to your child's learning, therefore our school has high expectations for this, as if your child is not in school, they are not being given the best opportunity for learning.
- In order for a positive learning environment to be developed, we expect all children to be dressed smartly, in the correct uniform. **Please name all uniform.**
- Please bring appropriate clothing for the weather and water bottles every day.

Discovery Topic Overview:

- Autumn Term: **Castles, Huts and Homes.**
- Spring Term: **Spot the Difference.**
- Summer Term: **Buckets and Spades.**
- Attached is the autumn term curriculum map displaying an overview for each subject area.

School trips

We aim to have **at least one school trip per term**. We are currently in the process of hopefully organising a trip to a castle for the autumn term. Information about trips will be given in advance.

Calling all volunteers! - Please do get in touch if you think you could volunteer some time to support with reading in Year 1.

Finally, we would just like to thank you for your continued support and we are looking forward to a fantastic year!

Yours sincerely,

The Year 1 Team

Miss Wingrave

Mrs Morris and Miss Stout



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