### logo1Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Hall Lane, Cronton, Cheshire WA8 5DW

# Tel: 0151 424 3926 Fax : 0151 420 3177

## Headteacher : Mrs J Cook-Hannah

## We pray together. We play together. We learn together.

12.09.14

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year and a big hello from me Mrs Mitchell! We have had a lovely first few days in Year 1 and I am really looking forward to the upcoming year and meeting with all of you over the coming weeks and beyond.

I am writing to you to provide you with information about the expectations I have for your child in Year 1.

***Topics for the Autumn Term***

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| --- | --- |
| R.E - Come and See | Domestic Church (Families), Baptism & Confirmation (Belonging), Advent & Christmas (Waiting).  One week of Judaism |
| Science | Sound & Hearing, Light & Dark, Growing Plants, Using & Sorting Materials, Ourselves, |
| P.E | Games- Ball skills  Athletics  Gym- Wide, narrow, curled |

Each day the children will have a Letters and Sounds, Literacy and Maths session, with RE during the week. Other subjects such as Science and History are incorporated into the Continuous Provision, in which children learn through play directed by their own interests. In the summer term Year 1 will gradually adopt a more formal approach to learning, as a transition into Year 2 when continuous provision time will be reduced and the children will complete more formal lessons in our own classroom.

Over the next few weeks we will be exploring the story of ‘The Tempest’ which will build on and extend the children’s knowledge from Reception. The children will have access to a range of fiction and non-fiction books and these will draw on the children’s own interests as observed whilst in the setting.

***Letters and Sounds***

This week we have been focusing on Phase 3, exploring trigraphs. We have been talking about the sounds ‘air’ ‘ure’ and ‘ear’. We will be talking more about the Letters and Sounds at the coffee morning which we will let you know about in due course.

***Punctuality/Absence***

The children should line up at 8.55am on the playground unless it is raining heavily, in which case, classroom doors will be opened a little earlier. It is your responsibility to supervise them up until this point. Any child arriving after the class has entered the classroom at 8.55am needs to go to the main door to be signed in by Mrs Glanvill or Mrs Campbell. If for any reason your child is absent from school, please contact us to let us know. If we do not hear from you, then Mrs Featherstone, our Learning Mentor, will ring to find out why your child is absent.

If you need to collect your child at any time in the day for an appointment, could you please report to the office and your child will be collected from their classroom.

***Behaviour - Our Values in Reception/Year One***

We have started the year together discussing 6 key values that we believe will shape the year to come. They are as follows:

**Listen Wait No**

**Quiet Come Care**

The children have suggested some fantastic explanations for what these words mean in the setting and how we can use them. Perhaps you can discuss them with your child at home and what they will mean for us in the classroom.

***Praising and Rewarding***

Throughout the school day children are encouraged and praised. Praising of good behaviour helps to reinforce positive messages to all children. Good behaviour, good work, good manners, and caring for others are rewarded. Taking Lenny the giraffe home, certificates, Headteacher Awards, and a weekly achievement assembly are examples of the way in which good behaviour is recognised and celebrated. Good attendance and punctuality are also celebrated during end of term assemblies.

***PE***

The children will have 2 hours of P.E every week. This amount of regular exercise is vitally important; therefore please ensure that they have full PE kit in school at all times. If your child doesn’t have PE kit, they will be offered a school kit from a bank of spares that parents have donated. A letter will also be sent home if they do not have their kit.

***Uniform***

Please make sure that your child has the correct school uniform and that all items of uniform are clearly marked with your child’s name to prevent items getting lost. Also, please ensure that long hair is tied back at all times.

***Water Bottles and Snacks***

As in Reception, snack will be provided for the children in class. Snack money for the current half term costs £10.50. This needs to be sent in a sealed envelope with your child’s name on and the amount paid. The children will receive a healthy snack, fruit and milk every day. Snack, fruit and milk are available from 9.30am until 10.45am and fruit is also available in the afternoon. Please encourage your child to bring in a water bottle. They will have opportunities throughout the day to refill their bottle if necessary. Please ensure your child brings their bottle home for washing at the weekend and brings it back to school refilled on Monday.

***Dinner Menus***

Dinner menus will be handed out on Monday mornings when RARARA bags are being changed. Please fill them in and send them back into school as soon as possible. If you have not returned the menu by Friday , you will be asked to fill it in when changing your child’s RARARA bag. This enables us to consolodate the menus for the kitchen staff for the coming week.

As part of a Government initiative, I am sure you are all aware that school dinners are now free for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The meals are provided by Knowsley Schools Meals Service who ensure children are given a nutritious meal. Strict guidelines are followed to ensure all meals provided are healthy and develop children’s awareness of healthy eating.

***Art T-shirts***

We ask that children have an old t-shirt or shirt to protect their uniform during art activities. These can be kept in school for the year.

***Wellies***

The children need a pair of wellington boots to wear in the outside area: these must have your child’s name inside and need to be kept in school.

***Reading Books***

Children in Year 1 are expected to read for about 10 minutes each day, which should involve them reading the text and being asked questions by whomever they are reading to. This will help your child to develop their understanding of the text and it will allow you to assess whether they have understood what happened in the book. RARARA books, nursery rhymes and reading diaries will be sent home every Friday and changed again on a Monday, the same as last year. We hope that you will enjoy the time sharing books together with your child and that it will open their eyes to an exciting world of imagination and ideas.

***Homework***

Maths homework is sent home every Friday. Please try to do this with your child as the homework reinforces work we have done during the week. Children may also receive word lists and handwriting activities when appropriate- this will be discussed further at the coffee morning.

***Documenting Children’s Learning***

In the Year 1 class we will continue to document your child’s learning in the form of a learning story as you will have seen in Reception. These will be emailed to you through the 2Simple Build A Profile, so please read through them and feel free to respond back to us via email or write a comment and send it in. Please let us know if you have changed your email address.

***Home-Learning Stories***

If you want to tell us about your weekend or share some photos with us we would be delighted to hear about it. Please send them in as you did last year, either as a Story Creator, Pic Collage or an email to the school address.

***Education City and Mathletics***

We have now put the password to Education City inside your child’s reading diary. This will enable you to access Education City at home. This is an interactive resource that we also use in school. A Mathletics password is also included in the reading diary.

***Trip to the Brindley***

In October, we will be taking the children on a class trip to The Brindley Theatre in Runcorn to watch ‘The Princess and the Pea’, a new fantastical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen’ s classic, which the children will also be learning about and exploring in school.

The trip is organised for Wednesday 15th October - coaches will collect the children at 12.30pm and arrive back at school ready for the usual home collection time.

We do have limited places available for parents to accompany us. Please let us know by Monday 15th September if you would like to come with us. The cost of this trip is £10.00 each for both children and adults. Please fill in the attached permission and payment slip and return to school in an envelope by Friday 3rd October.

***Questions and appointments***

If you have any worries or issues you would like to discuss about your child please feel free to call me in school. It is, however, very hard to discuss issues at 8:55am when I am collecting the children from the playground or at 3:15pm when I am dismissing the children but of course will arrange an appointment at a suitable time for any issues to be discussed further.

***Newsletters***

Information and any reminders will be given out via our newsletter on a Friday. This will inform you of things that we have been doing in class during that week and remind you of anything coming up the following week. We do hope you enjoy reading it and finding out what the children have been busy with.

***Homework***

Homework will also be given out on a Friday via our newsletter as it was last year. Maths based homework will be referring to your child’s Busy Ant maths workbook which will also go home in book bags on a Friday and will need to be returned on Monday. This week in our Maths carpet times we have been talking about numbers between 1 and 20 and one more and one less. Please could children complete Week 1 Lesson 2 in the workbook. Thank you.

***And finally…***

Thank you for reading this long letter and for your continued support. I know we are going to have a fantastic year together and I am looking forward to getting to know each child and their family.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Mitchell, Miss Cook & Miss Langton

**Permission Slip for the Brindley Theatre**

Please return by Monday 15th September. If too many wish to come we will draw names out of a hat.

I would like to / I am unable to accompany you to the Brindley Theatre on Wednesday 15th October

Child’s Name

Parents Signature

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I give my permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to go to the Brindley Theatre on Wednesday 15th October.

I have enclosed £10.00 (For 1 child ticket)

I have enclosed £20.00 (For 1 child and 1 adult ticket)