



Hartwell Primary School

Class 1 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all had a great Christmas, I would like to start by saying a big thank you from myself and Mrs Payne for all of our lovely presents and cards, we really appreciated them. I hope you and your children are all set for the next term in Year 1! Our topic this term is **Toys (Old and New)**.

Start to Year 1

The children have had a brilliant first term and they have made a fantastic start to Year 1. I have been so impressed with their enthusiasm and 'growth mindset' towards our learning. Their independence has grown so much already and they are doing a super job with their reading, spellings, homework and tricky words. Thank you for your continued support at home.

Homework and Spellings

All children will still take home homework every **Wednesday**, which needs to be returned the following **Monday**. Children will also continue to take home new spellings every **Wednesday**, which they will be tested on, on a **Monday**. This term there will be an addition of a tricky word to learn added to each week's spellings, which will not follow the spelling pattern of the other words.

Reading and Tricky Words

Reading books will still be changed on a **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday** if needed. All reading books and diaries will also be collected in every **Monday** so that the books can be changed and I can check and sign their diaries. Starting from this term, the children will also be able to collect a Dojo point/effort mark for reading at home 4 times a week - this will need to be evidenced in their diary. Some children will still be bringing home tricky words, which will be checked and updated by Mrs Payne every other week.

Phonics

The phonics test is advancing and as previously mentioned, will take place in June. The spellings they are bringing home are spelling patterns they can expect to see in the test. For extra practice, the sound mats in the back of their homework books are a good guide to sounds they would be expected to know by the end of Year 1, which could be practised at home. More information about the test will be given at the next parent's evening and in Summer Term 1. I will be doing practice tests with the children in the run up to this and there will be lots of practice and work towards this test in school.

PE Kits

The children will be participating in indoor PE on a **Wednesday** afternoon (Dance) and indoor PE on a **Friday** morning (Gymnastics). Please ensure that your child has their PE kit including plimsolls on these days.

Could you also make sure your child brings their water bottle in to school everyday.

I look forward to another positive term in Year 1! Thank you again for all your continued support at home. If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to come and see me anytime.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Deacon