



## CURRICULUM NOTES - 2021 / 2022

### YEAR 1

We would like to wish you a very warm welcome to 1LB and 1AE. We are looking forward to a happy and successful year ahead.

The work that your child will be doing in Year 1 will naturally become more structured but will always be set at an appropriate level. We will start the year with a similar approach to their time in Reception, with continuous provision focusing on a variety of areas of learning within the classroom and outside area. Mornings will be reserved for English and Maths. There will be a 25-minute break when the children will be able to relax and get ready for some more work to follow. The children have 45 minutes outdoor play after lunch. Then the afternoon sessions will be filled with various topic activities and specialist subjects.

#### Assemblies

There are three Pre-Prep assemblies each week and a Singing Lesson on a Tuesday. All assemblies are teacher-led and Friday assemblies are 'Celebration Assemblies', where all the children in Pre-Prep get the opportunity to share examples of good work or behaviour. Each of the Pre-Prep year groups perform an Assembly. These start at 0915 and last for approximately 30 minutes; more precise details will be sent out to you nearer the time. We very much look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at your child's performances.

#### Snack and Lunch

During the morning children are given a drink of milk or water and a piece of fruit to see them through to lunchtime. Water is always available throughout the day when they are thirsty. Children are encouraged to bring in their own water bottle, which should be clearly named. These bottles may only contain water and will be sent home daily to be cleaned and refilled. All children have school lunch, where a wide variety of food is available, including a daily vegetarian option and a salad bar. Kitchen staff, teachers and teaching assistants are all on hand throughout the lunch period to supervise and help the children. If your child has special dietary requirements, please notify the school nurses in writing so that necessary arrangements can be made.

#### Kit

The children will need to bring their black coat, waterproof trousers and wellington boots to keep at school. As you will see from the timetable Games/PE lessons take place on Monday and Thursday. Children need to come to school dressed in their white PE kit. Please ensure they are dressed appropriately for the weather and wear black tracksuits over the top if necessary.

#### Specialist Subjects

French, Music, Dance, Drama and PE/Games will be taught by specialist teachers while English, Maths, Science, RS, PSHE, Geography, History, Art, ICT (Information and Communication Technology) and DT (Design and Technology) will be taught by the form teachers.

#### English

The children can select a reading book from our reading scheme to bring home; this can be changed at their own pace. This graded scheme contains a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and is aimed at consolidating the reading strategies your child is taught at school. The texts are appropriate for the child to be able to read fluently and hence develop a greater love of reading and better expression. There may be a rare occasion when the book chosen by your child to read independently at home could prove more challenging than usual. Please help him/her with the more difficult words by discussing the text and illustrations in the book.

The school reading scheme is only a small part of an individual's total reading, so please introduce your child to a variety of books outside school. Please encourage trips to your local library, as learning library skills is an invaluable life skill.

In a few weeks the children will be given spellings each week using the 'Look, Cover, Write, Check' method. These will become part of the daily morning routine. They will be reinforced through daily phonics and spelling teaching.

Hall Grove teaches the cursive style of handwriting. In Year 1 the children follow the Hemispheres Think Write program to enable them to form their letters with the leading lines and the correct sizing. It follows a hierarchical series of targets, enabling children to join their letters when ready.

### Maths

In Maths, the Year 1 children learn to add and subtract to at least 50 and beyond. They learn to order, sequence and count to 100 and beyond. The children will learn about data handling, problem solving, time, measure, shape, space and movement. Above all they will be taught to develop effective mental strategies for adding and subtracting numbers.

### Topics

We adopt a cross-curricular approach to our teaching and learning. The main topics that we cover in Year 1 are:

Autumn Term – Ourselves, Under the Sea & Celebrations

Spring – Dinosaurs & Treasure

Summer – Imaginary Worlds & Nature Detectives

### Arrival Times

Year 1's drop off time is between 0815-0845. Children who have siblings higher up the school can be dropped off at 8am. There will be a member of Pre-Prep staff to supervise them until 0815.

Throughout Year 1, we are aiming for the children to become more independent and would like them to be able to make their own way to their classrooms in the mornings. The Class Register is completed by 0900. If you arrive at school after 0900, please go to the school Reception office to inform the school secretary of your arrival so that your child can be registered. The children finish at 1540 and afternoon collection will be on the drive.

We ask that if you need to pick up your child, drop them in late or return them, you do so via the School Office. This means that in case of fire or emergencies we are aware of all people in school.

### Home Times

The procedure for going home at the end of the day is well established and it is very important for you to follow it and thus ensure the safety of your child. Please arrive by 1540 to collect your child. If you arrive earlier, please park up at the A30 end of the drive (before the barrier) and wait until the time that children come out onto the drive before joining the queue of cars. Please do not park on yellow lines. Children must be closely supervised at all times, and they are your responsibility once they have left their teachers. Extreme care is to be taken crossing the drive to parked cars, small children held firmly by the hand.

If your child is being picked up by somebody else, please inform the class teacher who will be picking up your child. If you need to make different arrangements during the day, please ring and let the school secretary know as soon as possible. Please ensure that your child is picked up promptly and notify the school if you think you are going to be unavoidably late.

### Learning Support

Hall Grove is a non-selective school and we welcome children of all learning abilities save those who need highly specialised intensive support. The Learning Support Team is Mrs Gilly Harris and Mrs Alexandra Moore and Mrs Tamara Laws. We believe that the strengths of every child should be celebrated, and it is understood that some may require specific tools or learning interventions at different stages of their journey through the school in order to achieve their best and become well rounded confident individuals. The Learning Support staff work closely

with both class teachers and parents and we are committed to enabling every child to achieve his /her academic potential. Please contact Mrs Harris should you have any queries regarding learning support.

#### Parent Interviews & Appointments

Individual Parent Interviews will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, when we will be able to tell you how your child has settled into Year 1 and discuss general progress.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment after school hours if you wish to discuss any issues concerning your child. Such meetings provide the teachers with invaluable information, especially now at the beginning of the school year when the children are in the process of settling down. However unimportant or trivial it may seem to adults, to the child it might be very important.

We are all looking forward to teaching the children. We will do our best to make their time at Hall Grove in Year 1 as interesting, creative, pleasurable and fun.

Kind Regards,

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