

**WESTERN ROAD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Elm Class! The children are making a fantastic start to the year, exploring our new topic and settling well into our classroom.

Our learning journey this term is SPACE! We will be exploring this topic with some exciting 'space' story writing. We will be using the books, 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy and 'The BOY who Switched off the Sun' by Paul Brown, to inspire us and aid our imaginations. We will also explore some acrostic poetry, and we will write our very own 'SPACE' acrostic poems. In science, we will be learning all about ourselves, naming different body parts and exploring our senses. In History we will be learning all about Tim Peake and Neil Armstrong and their journeys into space.



Phonics will be taught daily as a whole-class. We are currently recapping phase 3 and will be moving into phase 4 as the term progresses. Phonics is a fundamental part of the children's learning in Year 1, so I would strongly encourage you to work on this with your children at home where possible, helping them to recite some phonic sounds. I will send home some helpful sheets in their homework books for you to use as an aid in due course.

In Maths we will be practising counting and writing our numbers, understanding place value and learning some basic addition and subtraction using objects.

PE will be on Monday and Wednesday afternoon. The children will need PE shoes, as these sessions may be outside, weather permitting. If your child has pierced ears, please make sure that they can either take them out themselves or that they do not wear them on these days as we are unable to allow the children to wear any form of jewellery for PE. Please make sure all clothing is labelled; the children often find it very difficult to identify their own clothing if unnamed. Please make sure your child has a full PE kit ready at school.

The children will continue to have snack time in class with a story. Fruit is provided for the children, or they can bring in fruit or vegetables from home. Please let me know if there are any special dietary requirements.

Now that the children are in Year One, we are encouraging them to come into the classroom independently. I have been beyond impressed with our first couple of days, the children have entered the classroom beautifully! To continue help the children with this transition, please try to say goodbye before they come into the classroom. When they come in, they will be reminded to put their snacks in the snack bowl and water bottles in the water box. If your child is being collected by someone that does not usually do so, please let Mrs Johnson or myself know and we will write it in the book by the door.

On Tuesdays Mrs Johnson will read with the children and help them change their books. If your child finishes their book before Tuesday, they are welcome to change their book themselves for another of the same reading band. We will show them how to do this and will continue to help them with it until they are confident.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to speak to me before or after school.

Kind regards,

Miss Patience

**Acting Headteacher: Irèna Wooler**  
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