

Welcome to Year 1

Welcome to another exciting year at Malvern Way School. We are looking forward to working with you and your child this year and thank you in advance for your support.

Book Bags and Water Bottles

We ask that every child has a Malvern Way book bag to keep in their tray (no ruck sacks or keyrings attached please) and a Malvern Way water bottle in school (water bottle lids are colour coded depending on your child's colour group). Your child will be in the same colour group as last year. Water bottles should not be kept in book bags as they damage reading books if they leak.

PE

All children should have a full PE kit in school every day including: black plimsolls, a pair of navy blue/black shorts, navy blue/black tracksuit trousers and top, a sky blue T-shirt and a spare pair of socks (if they wear tights). Children with earrings must have their own micropore tape in their PE bag (they must be able to put this on themselves). All PE items need to be named.

Library Books

These are changed weekly on a Friday. Please ensure you keep track of your child's library book.

Home Learning

Home learning activities come via ParentMail each Friday. This will have details of a task or activity to carry out with your child. The activities will be linked to learning that the children have either been doing that week or will be doing the following week.

Reading Books

These are changed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. However, please ensure your child has their reading book and reading record book in school everyday as they may need to read with an adult. Every child should be reading at home daily. Please make a brief comment in the reading record book and sign. You will find talking about the reading and questioning your child to develop their understanding is as important as reading itself. Children change their books independently, therefore it is their responsibility to choose a book they have not read. It is the Class Teacher's decision to change/move reading spots. We will regularly read with your child in Guided Reading and individual reading time.

Keywords

Your child will be bringing home a small pack of keywords. These are taken from the list of most frequent words that children use, they can be either phonic or 'memory'. Keywords should be practised daily and will be tested in school on a Wednesday, please make sure they are returned to school on this day every week. To start with the spellings may seem a bit easy but this is to build the child's confidence and each child will progress at their own pace. Please also ensure that your child learns their spellings using the *cursive* style of writing as they are written on the pieces of paper. Please do not let your child practise their spellings in their red key word book. This book is for school use only.

Maths Games

You all received a Literacy pack last year. This year, your child will bring home a maths game. Each class require a parent helper to help organise and re-distribute the games. Please enjoy playing the games with your children and play them as many times as you like that week.

6Cs

To support your child to become an effective learner, we encourage them to think and reflect on their learning behaviour. We do this by using puppet characters that represent the type of behaviour we want to encourage. These characters are: **Concentrating Crocodile, Challenge Cheetah, Choosy Chimp, Curious Cat, Collaboration Cockatoo and Confident Caterpillar**. We like to celebrate these good learning choices by giving children certificates which they will bring home to share with you.

Wellies & Coats

It can get muddy on the grass and children will only be allowed to play on the grass if they have a named pair of wellies in school. Coats MUST be in school everyday because the children will still go out to play if it is raining.

Painting Aprons

Every child needs a long sleeved painting apron in school to protect their clothes when they do art. Painting aprons should be named and left at school.

Parent/Carer Helpers

We are very grateful of adult help with the changing of reading/library books, changing maths games and help during Guided Reading (9.00-9.30). We are happy to see you on a regular basis, please discuss this with your class Teacher as a DBS check will need to be completed which is a cost to the school.

PPA Time (Planning & Preparation)

Year 1 Teachers are out of class one afternoon per week. The classes are then taught by:
Mrs Venn ~ Hedgehog, Mrs Feander ~ Rabbit, Mrs Sahin/Mrs Bartram ~ Squirrel

Behaviour

Our behaviour system consists of a first verbal warning, followed by a yellow card and a red card. If the child breaks another rule they will then lose 5 minutes of their Golden Time on a Friday. Children receive team points, stickers, praise pads, certificates and lots of verbal and non-verbal praise for good behaviour or learning.

Beginning & End Of The Day

School starts promptly at 8.50am when the class teacher meets the children outside. Please can we ask parents not to escort their children down the paths and to the door. Please be reminded that the play equipment, particularly near Squirrel class should not be used by pupils or siblings before or after school. If your child is going home with someone other than their parent/carer please inform the Teaching Assistant at the start of the day to save any confusion when collecting. If it is a regular arrangement it would be really helpful if you could put it in writing.

Communication

Please check your child's book bag each day for messages from school, most communication will be sent via ParentMail. Also please note we do not look in your child's book bag so please remind your child to hand any letters or monies to us or use one of the post boxes around school.

Birthdays

As we are a healthy school please ensure that children do not bring sweets to school for their friends. Fruit packets, stickers, pencils or small toys can be given out to celebrate their birthday. We will always sing "Happy Birthday" and invite the birthday child to share their birthday news.

Thank you

Miss Glasscoe & Mrs Aspindle ~ Hedgehog

Mrs Linfield & Mrs Brennan ~ Rabbit

Mrs Sahin, Mrs Bartram & Mrs Wilson ~ Squirrel