



**YEAR ONE**

**PARENT**

**HANDBOOK**

2019/20

## Year 1 handbook

Welcome to Year 1 – a year to blossom into confident learners. Your child has already learned the basics in Reception and now is the time to cement those skills, ready for future use. We seek to guide your child from the play-based environment of Reception to the more structured learning of Year 2 with plenty of fun along the way.

Further information, and an opportunity to ask any questions you may have, will be given in the Information Meeting on Thursday 12 September at 2.30pm but we hope that this handbook will provide a useful starting point.

## Teaching Staff



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## Teaching Assistants



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## Academic Matters

### English

- **Spelling –**
  - Each week the children will focus on a particular letter pattern/sound in class and the word lists reflect this.
  - Pupils practise their spellings at school and also contribute to a class word wall to discover other words that could belong in the same group.
  - Parents are encouraged to support their child's spelling knowledge in a similar way at home.
  - A weekly test happens on a Thursday.
- **Reading and Writing –**
  - Children in Year 1 will continue to follow the reading scheme started in Reception. Books are carefully graded to introduce spelling patterns and key words in a gradual and meaningful way.
  - We encourage you to hear your child read every day and books will be changed daily.
  - If required, individual sound or word cards will be sent home in your child's pupil planner for them to practise at home. Please make sure that they stay in the planner for use in school. Children who are struggling will be invited to join a weekly phonics booster group.
  - Children will be heard to read three times a week. One of these will be a guided reading session with the class teacher. (Children will be heard more regularly if required.)
  - Guided reading will focus on a particular aspect of reading and will help the children to learn skills to use when reading.

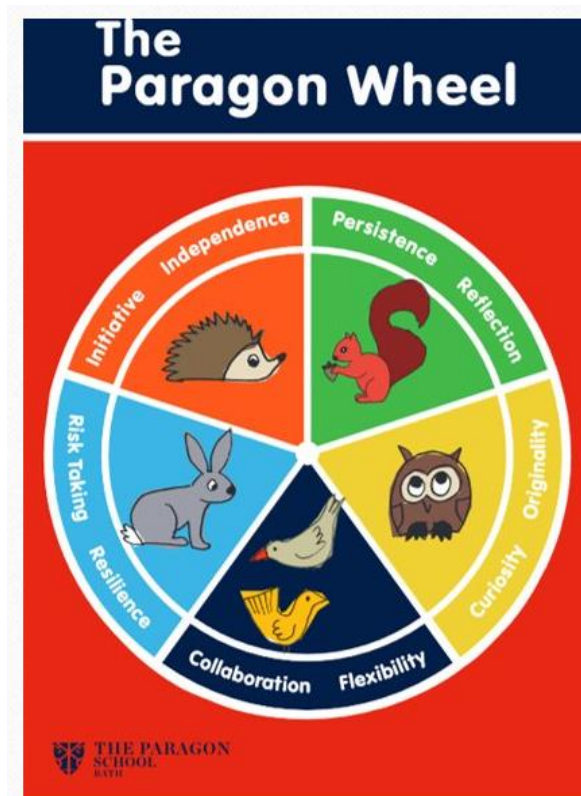
- The children will also be reading daily from work sheets, non-fiction books, big books or the interactive white board.
  - Children also learn about reading by being read to. Please make sure you read to your child regularly and help them to understand the book more fully by discussing characters, settings and plots. In class, we will use a wide variety of texts and genres to help your child to develop a love of books and reading.
  - We will visit the school library every week on a Wednesday. (If you would like to be able to utilise the library more frequently, please contact Mrs Fiona Clague [fclague@priorparkschool.com](mailto:fclague@priorparkschool.com) )
  - Reading plays a major part in helping your child to become a better writer. As well as studying the stories, we will regularly focus on aspects of grammar and punctuation.
- **Handwriting-** To begin with, the focus will be on correct letter formation but as the year progresses we will be introducing the children the cursive script.
  - **Maths**
    - The abacus Maths scheme that we use follows a cyclical format where topics are repeated periodically and previous work is revised and built upon. This allows the children to move through the material at their own pace. Extra support or extension can then be given along the way, as required.
    - Children work in small groups on tasks that reflect their stage of learning. It is largely taught through practical activities - giving the children a visual representation of the operations they are performing.

- Progress is monitored through weekly tests and areas that need further input will be revised.
- Children who are performing particularly well in Maths, may be invited to join a weekly challenge Maths group.

## Homework expectations.

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| <b>Year One</b> | 10 minutes reading or sharing a book every day and spelling practice. |
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## Learning Habits



Pupils are encouraged to develop the learning habits shown on The Paragon Wheel and they are discussed regularly in class.

## The Bulletin



The Bulletin is a key publication for parents, do check it every week. It contains a summary of what has been happening in school and, perhaps more importantly, information about forthcoming events. Details about:

- Trips – letters with permission slips,
- Outdoor Learning activities - appropriate clothing and wellies
- On site special days
- Assemblies
- Headmaster's Comments
- Music and Sport Notices

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We hope you find all the enclosed details useful; if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.