

Dosbarth Un

Miss Carroll, Miss Jones, Miss Britton

Information Booklet



Academic Year 2018-2019

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Live, Learn, Succeed, Together

Welcome to Class 1

We hope you find the following information booklet useful. Included are details about your child's curriculum, the topics we intend to cover throughout the year and how their learning will develop throughout their journey in Reception. Information will be regularly on our class webpage: <http://www.garnteg.torfaen.sch.uk>

We would like to take this opportunity to tell you about our 'open door policy'. If you have any queries or concerns about your child please come and talk to us at the end of the day. Alternatively you can call the school to arrange a meeting.

Staff

The adults supporting your child in class 1

Miss Carroll - Class 1 teacher

Miss Britton - Teaching assistant

Miss Jones - Teaching assistant

Mr Key - Class 2 teacher

Mrs Freeman - Teaching assistant

Miss Sweeting - Teaching assistant

Daily routines

The school is open from 8:50am. When the children arrive in the classroom they begin an Early Morning Activity which will support or reinforce learning or be time to enjoy reading a range of books, magazines and leaflets. This will allow the class teacher to complete the register. Pupils begin activities immediately upon arrival and morning register is taken at 9.00 am. Registers are also taken at the start of the afternoon session. Registers are closed at 9.15 am and 1.10pm. The school day finished at 3.15 and children are to be collected from the year 1 entrance door. If a child is not collected as normal that child will be taken to the school reception area and wait in a safe environment of the school.

Children who return to school following a period of absence are expected to produce an explanatory note/letter from their parents, unless the school has been previously informed by telephone. Persistent, unexplained absences are reported to the Headteacher who will bring the matter to the attention of the Education Welfare Officer

Throughout the day the children will complete:

- Literacy
- Maths
- Welsh
- Topic or subject based work

The children participate in a school or class assembly four times a week and a singing practice on a Tuesday morning.

School Uniform

Children are expected to adhere to the recognised school uniform. If there are any problems with uniform please inform the class teacher in person or through sending in a note.

The National Curriculum and the National Literacy and Numeracy Framework

Garnteg Primary School uses a thematic planning approach through the Foundation Phase. For Foundation Phase, overview plans for subjects detail main objectives, differentiated activities, assessment opportunities and resources. They also show linkage to the school improvement plan.

Weekly planning grids highlight the main learning outcomes for each session and are completed by teachers during the weekly planning and preparation time.

When mind maps in the Foundation Phase have been created, teachers highlight the skills that the children will be taught on the skills grid. This ensures skills coverage. Numeracy and literacy skills across the curriculum are also incorporated into weekly overviews.

An additional learning needs identification sheet accompanies planning grids and highlights how those children with additional learning needs are supported.

Our autumn term topic is "A whole new world", which will incorporate curriculum key skills.

Language, Literacy and Communication

The Literacy Hour is an opportunity to develop children's reading, writing and spelling skills through the Big Write and Read Write Inc. programme.

Big Write sessions will take place every Thursday, which gives the children an opportunity to be creative through their structured piece of writing in a positive learning environment. Work is then assessed, and children are given the opportunity to improve their work the following week. This programme will be followed once the pupils are confident in their writing.

The Read Write Inc. intervention programme will take place each day for 30 minutes. Here they cover phonics and practise their reading skills.

Mathematical Development

During our daily maths lessons the children work on a number of mental strategies. Using a range of resources such as individual whiteboards, number cards and an interactive maths board the children work on their ability to calculate sums mentally. This is a very effective way of revising previous work and developing understanding of relationships between numbers. There is also a strong emphasis on developing a range of strategies with which to approach calculations. This supports children in checking their answers by approaching questions in different ways. Children will also be given opportunities to put the strategies learnt into real life situations thus making their learning relevant to the world around them.

Children will learn shape, space and measure and how to handle data in tables, charts and graphs.

We have also recently started the Big Maths programme, which concentrates on mental strategies and tests children on their mental arithmetic every Wednesday (Reception will start

this later in the term). Through continued practise and implementation of this programme, children's understanding and ability to answer mental calculations will improve.

For example: there are 2 rows of 5 stamps on a sheet. How many would there be on 5 sheets?

Children will learn shape, space and measure and how to handle data in tables, charts and graphs.

The Big Maths programme concentrates on mental strategies and tests children on their mental arithmetic each week. Through continued practise and implementation of the programme, children's understanding and ability to answer mental calculations will improve.

ICT

The skills of IT are taught directly in weekly ICT lessons as well as being integrated into topic and other subjects. Children benefit from a class set of laptops, iPads access to the recording studio and a range of other ICT equipment. Each class has their own computer and SMART board with full internet and email access. We also use visual and audio recording equipment to allow pupils to record their work in different methods.

Knowledge and Understanding/ Science

Science is taught for 2 hours per week through Knowledge and Understanding. The topics are taught in blocks throughout a term. There is a focus on investigational work rather than "knowing facts". The children are encouraged to plan, obtain, record and evaluate data. Children are given opportunities to question and challenge information and become scientific thinkers.

Physical Education

The children have at least 2 hours of PE per week which includes a range of dance, gymnastics and ball skills. It is imperative that they wear suitable clothing for both indoor and outdoor activities. No jewellery is permitted.

Indoor activities:

- Girls: shorts/ leggings and t-shirt, daps or bare feet.
- Boys: shorts t-shirt, daps or bare feet.

Outdoor activities:

- Girls and boys: As above with suitable footwear, e.g. trainers. Tracksuit for cold weather.

Our P.E session is on a WEDNESDAY afternoon

Themed Learning

This gives children opportunities to explore areas within a topic. The child will become more responsible for their learning. Where certain areas of learning are missed the teacher will deliver a focused lesson thus ensure the children receive a broad and balanced curriculum. This work will be record in books and portfolios.

Forest Schools

The children take part in a Forest School sessions throughout the year. You will be informed when these sessions are due to start. It is important that children bring in coats and sensible footwear on this day. Forest School sessions are run by our trained Forest School practitioner Mrs Baker. Forest School is an innovative and inspiring approach to learning and development which gives the children opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences during regular visits to our school-based woodland site.

PPA (planning, preparation and assessment)

PPA is a (statutory) amount of time allocated to teachers to aid them in planning, preparation and assessing their teaching and the children's learning. For this teachers will have half a day non contact time per week. PPA will be covered by Mrs Baker on a Monday afternoon.

School Trips

At the start of each term (where possible) children will be taken on a trip that relates to the theme for that term. The trip will aim to 'spark' the children's enthusiasm for the topic and can then be built on back in and around the classroom.

Some trips may not necessarily be linked to a terms theme, these trips will still be of strong educational or experiential value.

Classroom Rules

In our classes we ensure that we have a happy learning environment where everyone feels valued and enjoys their time together. In order for us to achieve this we have a number of rules that we abide by that are linked in with the school rules:

1. Look at the chosen speaker
2. Show good sitting, looking and listening skills
3. Follow instructions the first time
4. Keep your hands and feet to yourself

School Rules

The school rules operate around our 5 Golden Rules, these are

- Respect each other
- Follow instructions first time
- Raise your hand to ask or answer a question
- Keep hands, feet and hurtful comments to yourself
- Always use an appropriate voice level
- Follow the school signal; Stop, Look and Listen

These rules are reinforced throughout the school and children are expected to adhere to them at all times.

As we strive to help children become life-long learners we promote independence and responsibility throughout the school day.

Tuck

Children will be provided with a selection of fresh fruit and vegetables daily from our snack trolley which will need to be paid for on the Torfaen cashless system. Water is available at all times during the day, and children can have milk during snack time.

School Council and Eco Council

Two children from each class are elected to represent their peers on both the School Council and Eco Council. In Year 1 upwards this involves attending meetings, where children are encouraged to highlight any issues their peers may have raised with them and to participate in making decisions that affect the running of the school.

Medical information

If your child suffers from a medical condition that is likely to affect his/her education, we would be grateful if you would inform us.

Should your child require regular medication, and you wish to undertake its administration, we must ask that you inform us in writing. Information should contain the time of day it is to be taken and the dosage. Please complete a medical form at the office when bringing in your child first thing in the morning.

Home Learning

Each year group sends out this annual Information Booklet for parents pertaining to their year group. In Reception we encourage the following home learning activities to support learning.

Reading

We recommend 10 – 15 minutes reading 5 times a week as a part of homework. Each child will have a home reader and reading record which will be changed each Thursday when the children return them to class. (This will start later in the term for Reception pupils).

Weekly homework

Children will be given a piece of homework to support or reinforce learning on a Friday. Completed homework should be returned for the following Thursday.

Learning logs will go home every other Friday to be returned 12 days after completing the challenge.

Numeracy

Each term teachers will send home a leaflet containing activities that can be played at home. These activities are linked to the areas of maths being covered in class. Please make sure you are playing the games several times a week. There are very positive results from doing these activities at home.

Home – School Links

You are offered the opportunity of meeting with teachers throughout the year.

In the Autumn and Spring term there are formal Parent – Teacher Consultations. The consultations provide opportunity for parents to discuss with teachers children's progress, targets and voice any concerns they may have.

A written report is issued at the end of the Summer term.

Each week a newsletter is published and sent home each Friday.

You are invited to concert performances and assemblies throughout the year to share our celebrations. The school holds an awards assembly each week (currently Friday 9.15- 9.40). We invite parents of our 'pupils of the week' (announced in the previous Friday's newsletter) to join us in this assembly.

Parental Concerns

If you should ever feel it is necessary to make a complaint about the school curriculum or indeed any other aspect of the school, your first point of contact would be the class teacher, senior lead member, deputy head teacher then the head teacher. If after speaking with the class teacher you are still concerned you can contact the school and arrange to discuss any matter with the head teacher in the hope that it can be resolved quickly and to everyone's satisfaction.

Class 1 HOME SCHOOL POST

We recognise the importance of children, parents, and teachers working in partnership to enhance the quality of education for each individual. To this end we have outlined some homework ideas to support learning this half term.

HOMEWORK RULES

- Homework is intended to be a shared process between child and grown up.
- Homework ideas for maths activities will be sent out termly.
- Weekly homework, which support classroom learning, will be given on Fridays.

As always, children will be bringing home a book to read, share and enjoy. Please return the book each Wednesday with a comment on your child's reading of the book or read pages; children will be rewarded for regular reading at home and completion of homework. Reading is important to reinforce the strategies learnt in school during Read Write Inc or guided reading. The home reader should be a comfortable read in order to promote enjoyment of reading.

On a separate web line we have also included the Autumn term overview which outlines curriculum coverage and topics to be studied. You may wish to support your child and help them to develop their understanding of their topics or help them research using books or the internet.

Homework challenges will be sent home every other Friday.

Spellings and Numeracy homework will be sent home every Friday.

You can help your child learn their spellings by using the following activities:

- Use dictionaries to research and establish clusters of words using the same root.
- Create new words out of the same prefixes
- Use an (online) etymological dictionary to research word histories
- Use newspapers to highlight common connectives
- Identify phrases in everyday life which contain connectives.
- Make letter fans
- Create a word collage
- Create a poster
- Create a card game with certain spellings on

There are also lots of online resources which can help your child's learning. A few of them are listed below.

www.primaryresources.co.uk
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/>
<http://www.coolmath-games.com/>
<http://www.purplemash.co.uk/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/>
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/>
<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/revision/Science/>
<http://nrich.maths.org/primary-lower>

We look forward to sharing your work and meeting you at Parents evening.

Reception

go	we	see	can
come	this	on	he
went	dog	away	am
up	me	mum	all
you	like	it	is
day	going	at	cat
was	big	play	get
look	she	no	said
are	and	yes	to
the	they	for	in
of	my	dad	

Class 1 Staff



Miss Carroll
Class 1 Teacher



Miss Jones
Teaching Assistant



Miss Britton
Teaching Assistant

Other members of staff in our area



Mr Key
Class 2 Teacher



Mrs Freeman
Teaching Assistant



Miss Sweeting
Teaching Assistant