Dear Y1 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone. Thank you for your patience with our maintenance, it is lovely to have the children back learning in our clean and freshly painted classroom. We have also made lots of changes to our indoor and outdoor areas which I am hoping the children will like.

Below is information which we hope will be helpful to you (please note that there have been some timetable changes)-

PE

Our PE days are **Wednesday** and **Friday.** PE kits should be in school on these days but may not be used as we will limit changing in school. PE will be outside where possible and appropriate. Could earrings please be removed on these days.

Outdoor learning

At the Ellis we are working hard to develop the outdoor environment and opportunities to learn outside, therefore in Y1 we will be using our outdoor classroom and wider school environment as much as possible including Forest school. This means that your child will need appropriate footwear and coats every day. Indoor pumps will be needed in school to protect our classrooms from the inevitable mud! Our outdoor learning day will most often be **Monday** or **Friday**.

Extra layers

Our windows will be remaining open throughout Spring and Summer. Hopefully the weather will be warmer but just in case it’s not, please ensure your child has a cardigan or jumper they can put over the top of their t-shirts. Thank you.

Reading Books

Your child will have already brought home a reading book to share with you at home. Please record in their reading diary when they have read to an adult or maybe an older sibling. If reading diaries are filled then we will send home a second diary free of charge, however if it is lost then we ask that a new one is bought from the office at the cost of £1. Your child is welcome to change their coloured band book any day of the week when they have completed it but it is their responsibility to ensure books are changed regularly. Read, Write inc books will be swapped every Monday by myself so please ensure they are in their Red Book Bags on Monday morning, thank you. Children should aim to read at home at least 3 times per week and raffle tickets will be awarded for reading.

Spelling books

New spellings will be written into the children’s spelling books on a **Monday** and they will bring these home to practise. Please support your child in learning their spellings by asking them to complete the table in their spelling book or by using Spelling Shed. They will be tested on these on the following Friday. Dojos will be given.

Home Learning

As I am sure you are aware, children are also expected to complete a home learning project linked to our topic. I have attached a sheet of a few ideas linked to our topic but feel free to create your own ideas! We are always intrigued to see what our superstars have been up to! Once they have completed their project or projects (as some children prefer to do a few shorter projects, whilst others like to complete one long one), please send them into school so we can share their learning with the class. (Photos or PowerPoints can be emailed to Mrs Fiddes and will be passed onto class staff to share). Please encourage your child to take pride in their home learning and aim for a quality piece that may have taken a few sessions to complete.

Online learning

Thank you for embracing our new online learning platform **Seesaw.** We continue to learn more about the positives, possibilities and problems of the system but are really proud of the way our online learners have continued to engage and try hard at home. If your child is not able to attend school due to self-isolating or a bubble closure then Seesaw will continue to be the way we will deliver the curriculum online. If you ever have any difficulties with this then please contact school as we want to help all our children to continue to learn.

Children are encouraged to regularly practising spellings, time tables and areas of the curriculum online. As a school we have subscribed to websites to support the children with their learning. The children have been given their individual logins for **Spelling Shed**. Please support your child with their learning on this platform). If logins have been misplaced I can issue new ones.

You can find the The Wise Woollvins on Twitter **@TheEllisY1**

**Summer 1st Term**

Our new topic will be **Into the Woods**. Please see below to find an overview of the topic.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **RE**  What was Jesus like? | **English**  Leaf by Sandra Dieckmann  Moth by Isabel Thomas | **Geography**  Habitats/eco systems | **Art**  Butterflies/patterns in nature |
| **PSHE**  **Relationships** | **Outdoor Learning**  **Explore the woods** |
| **Maths**  Multiplication and division | **TOPIC**  **Into The Woods** | | **DT**  Birds with flapping wings |
| **PE**  Manipulating objects | **Music**  Charanga | **Computing**  IPADS | **Science**  Tree/plant/minibeasts/Living things/Habitats/life cycle/ food chains |

Home learning project suggestions

Here are some learning activities that you can do with your children at home to support their learning in school.

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| --- |
| Bark rubbings |
| Tree identification |
| Powerpoint on flowers |
| Minibeast hunt |
| Painting birds/butterflies |
| Plant bulbs/plants/vegetables etc |
| Design a bird table |

You can choose which of these activities you would like to do. You do not need to do all of them! We also know that you and your children have lots of original and creative ideas of your own. We love to see these too!

Please encourage your child to bring their learning into school to share.

If you have any questions, queries or worries then please get in touch via the phone or email.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Broadbent and The Y1 Team.