

*Welcome to Year One at  
Ad Astra Infant School*



# Our Vision



'Children First'

Our vision is to promote a **love of learning** in order to maximise the life chances of every child in our Trust. Through **nurturing, high expectations** and **skilled teaching**, we will have a lasting and positive impact on our local and wider community.

# Our Values



Our Trust will promote the following two sets of values:

## British Values

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance

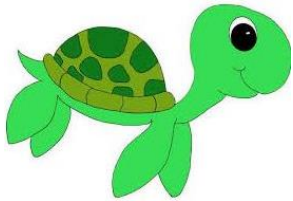
## TEACH Values

- Trust
- Excellence
- Aspiration
- Collaboration
- Honesty

# Meet the Teachers



Mrs Warner



Mr Watt  
(year leader)



Mrs Blake McKeown  
&  
Mrs Evans



Mrs Doyle

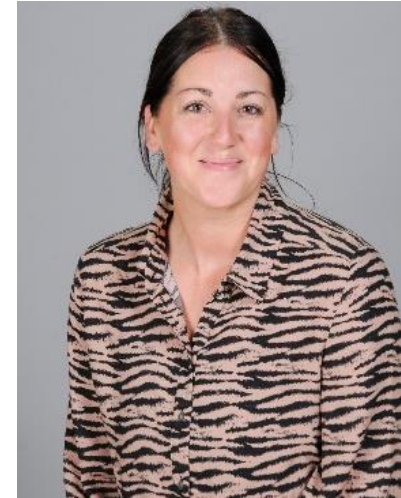
# Meet the Teaching Assistants



*Mrs Thomas-Smith*



*Miss Wignall*



*Mrs Marshall*



*Mrs Jackerman*



*Mrs Mannering*

# Special Educational Needs



- ✓ If your child needs additional support in school, then the class teacher will contact you to discuss this.
- ✓ Your child may receive 'school support' and be put on the Special Educational Needs register.
- ✓ Additional targets will then be set which will be shared with you during a separate meeting. These targets will be reviewed once a term.
- ✓ Your child may then use an IEP goals card in their lessons, with their targets on, collecting stickers when they are successful in making progress towards their target.



Mrs Chandler  
(Inclusion Leader)

# Pastoral Care

✓ Our TEACH Trust schools are not just about academic achievements, but the safety and development of the whole child too.

✓ We recognise that, for *all our children* to achieve their full potential, we also need to take care of their emotional well-being.

✓ All staff in all the TEACH Trust schools work together to support the children to achieve their very best educationally, socially, physically and emotionally.



Mrs Penfold  
(Pastoral Care Worker)

# Settling into Year One



- ✓ We will spend the first two days in September getting to know each child through well-being activities.
- ✓ Initially, we have a similar timetable as the children had in EYFS during the summer term.
- ✓ Initial planning has been adapted to be more like EYFS, for example we will still teach Discover and Explore for part of the Autumn Term.

# Settling into Year One



- ✓ Moving from EYFS to Year 1 is a really big step and a really important transition.
- ✓ Year 1 looks more like 'school' than the children are used to.
- ✓ Some of the routines are the same, but lots will be new and different.

# Differences between EYFS and Year 1



- ✓ Teachers will not always be available at the start of the day. Instead, there will be a TA present on the door every day. If/when needed, you can request a meeting with your child's teacher through the school office.
- ✓ Snacks are had during play time.
- ✓ Changing for PE is in the classrooms.

# Differences between EYFS and Year 1



- ✓ Children will change their own reading books (twice a week on Mondays and Fridays) and be responsible for giving in their own reading records (every day).
- ✓ We use peg numbers in our cloakrooms.
- ✓ Lots of children relish the new structure of their day whereas others take time to adjust.

# Differences between EYFS and Year 1



- ✓ We sadly don't do Forest School, so there is no need for wellies.
- ✓ We don't use Discover Diaries, sound books, house learning stars or show and tell books.
- ✓ In their book bags, the children only need their reading record, homework folder, reading book and library book (maybe spare pants and socks).
- ✓ Please do check all name labels and ensure that they don't include their previous class name.



# General class routines



- ✓ Colour groups
- ✓ Bookbags and PE bags
- ✓ Water bottles
- ✓ Fruit
- ✓ Toilets
- ✓ Playtimes

# Uniform



		
Trousers	Grey, black or charcoal tailored trousers. School conventional material. Full length	Jeans, corduroy, leggings, Lycra, skinny trousers
Jumper/ cardigan	Green with school logo	Other jumpers, hoodies, sweatshirts etc.
Skirts/ pinafore	Grey, black or charcoal knee length skirt/ dress	Fashion skirts or dresses, shorter than the knee
Socks and tights	Plain grey, black or white	Fashion tights, coloured or patterned socks/ tights, bare feet
Polo shirt	Plain white or with school logo	Coloured polo shirts, shirts with motifs
Shoes	Traditional flat black shoes. Velcro, laces, buckles or slip-ons.	Trainers, boots, high heels, wedges, open toed sandals, sling backs.

# Uniform



# Uniform



# Attendance



*Being in school is vital for so many reasons:*

- Achievement*
- Wellbeing*
- Wider development*

*Primary school children in KS2 who did not achieve EXS for reading, writing and maths missed on average 4 more days per school year than those whose performance exceeded the expected standard (2019).*

# Our Timetable



- ✓ Fiddly Fingers
- ✓ Reading
- ✓ Writing
- ✓ Phonics (Whizzy Words)
- ✓ Maths
- ✓ Handwriting
- ✓ Discover and Explore sessions in part of the Autumn Term
- ✓ Indoor & Outdoor PE, Science and Music lessons once a week
- ✓ History, Art, DT, Geography – topic based
- ✓ Computing (not always in the ICT suite), Religion & Worldviews and PSHE every other week

# Curriculum



- ✓ Making learning purposeful and relevant
- ✓ Working towards an outcome
- ✓ 'Sparkly Starters' and 'Fab Finishes'
- ✓ Link learning throughout our topics
- ✓ Writing and Maths linked to topic lessons where appropriate
- ✓ All areas of curriculum covered in an interesting way
- ✓ Each topic has two or three main focus areas

# Our Topics

## AUTUMN

*Once Upon a Time  
Paddington's Party  
Jingle Bells*

## SPRING

*Under the Sea  
Knights, Tales and Dragon Scales*

## SUMMER

*Roots, Shoots and Muddy Boots  
We Like to Move it, Move it!*



# Example Topic



*Sparkly Starter: Trip to Upton Country Park*  
*Fab Finish: Plant Sale*



## Science

*Plants and the things they need to grow*

## Geography

*Geographical skills, using atlases, globes, maps and aerial photographs*



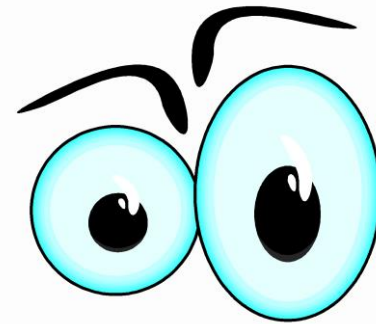
## Art

*Creating their own Van Gogh artwork – Sunflowers*



# Extra-ordinary events

- ✓ Drama workshop
- ✓ Storyteller
- ✓ Dress up days
- ✓ Tea Party
- ✓ Christmas Performance
- ✓ Trip to Upton Country Park
- ✓ Plant sale
- ✓ Picnics
- ✓ ... and much more!



Don't forget to check the online calendar, weekly alerts and half-termly curriculum newsletters for more information.

# Whole school dressing up



Julia  
Donaldson  
Character Day  
– Autumn 1

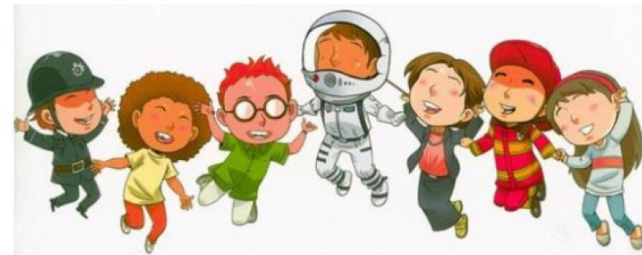


Children In  
Need –  
Autumn 2



World Book Day  
– Spring 1

Christmas  
Jumper Day –  
Autumn 2



When I grow up day  
– Summer 2

# Dressing up in Year One



Fairy Tale  
Dress Up Day  
– Autumn 1



Paddington's Party –  
Autumn 2



Storyteller  
Dress Up Day  
– Spring 2



Sports Activity  
Morning – Summer 2

# Growth Mindset

## What Kind of Mindset Do You Have?



I can learn anything I want to.  
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.  
I want to challenge myself.  
When I fail, I learn.  
Tell me I try hard.  
If you succeed, I'm inspired.  
My effort and attitude determine everything.



I'm either good at it, or I'm not.  
When I'm frustrated, I give up.  
I don't like to be challenged.  
When I fail, I'm no good.  
Tell me I'm smart.  
If you succeed, I feel threatened.  
My abilities determine everything.

# We are Growth Minded!

I'll keep trying.

I'm not going to give up.

Mistakes help me learn.

This may take a little more time.

I've got this. Now what can I challenge myself with?



# PSHE – Trick Box

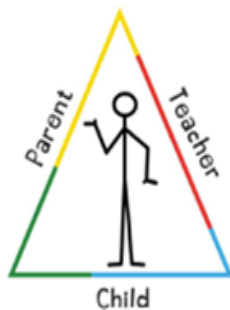
TRICK BOX®

Creating Happy Life Habits  
and managing the tricky bits!



Join us in supporting your child to build their confidence and communication skills, manage emotions and find solutions to challenges.

The Trick Box programme develops personal skills in 4 key areas through positive habit formation. Confidence, calm, communication and creativity.



Together we will practise and model the tricks taught through the PSHE curriculum, encouraging your child to use their new found skills.

The following pages will indicate what tricks are taught each academic year along with the tricks that are continuously practised to ensure embedded learning.



# PSHE – Trick Box

Build happy habits!  
Practise the Reception tricks as well as the 3 new tricks for year 1.



Year 1

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Week 2						
Week 3						

**Autumn 1**  
Week 2-3: Mirror Mirror  
Week 3: Big Voice

**Autumn 2**  
Week 2: Stand Tall

**Spring 1**  
Week 2: Breathing Colour  
Week 3: Sunny Side

**Spring 2**  
Week 2: Floating Cloud

**Summer 1**  
Week 2: Win-Win  
Week 3: Light Bulb

**Summer 2**  
Week 2: Free Flow

© 2017

# Confident Mathematicians



- ✓ Counting in: 2s, 5s, 10s
- ✓ Counting forwards to 100 and backwards from 100
- ✓ Number Bonds to 10 and 20
- ✓ Addition and Subtraction — 1 digit and 1 digit e.g.  $6 + 4 =$   
2 digit and 1 digit e.g.  $14 + 6 =$
- ✓ Multiplication and Division
- ✓ KS1 maths parent workshop in the Autumn Term

# Handwriting

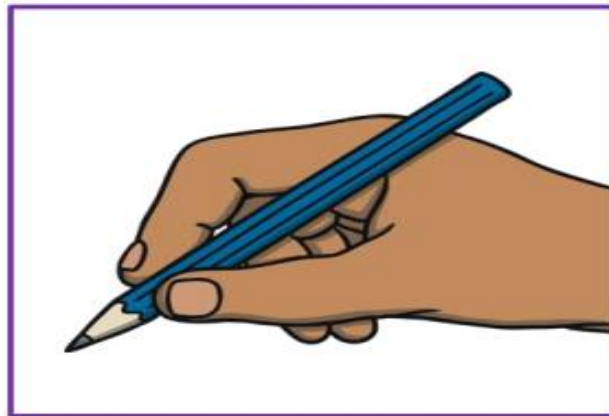


## 4 letter families

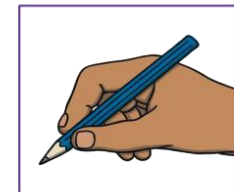
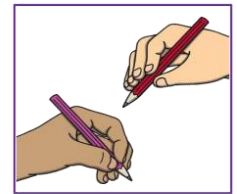
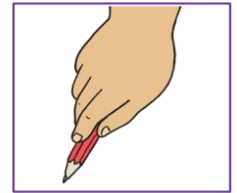
- Long ladder letters - l, i, t, u, y, j
- One-armed robot letters - r, b, n, h, m, k, p
- Curly caterpillar letters - c, a, d, o, s, g, q, e, f
- Zig-zag monster letters - z, x, w, v

## Tripod pencil grip

- This is the best grip to ensure fluency and speed.



### Pencil grip progression



# Classroom Charter

- Rights' Respecting school – Gold Award (June, 2025)
- Rewards and consequences
  - \* Shooting star, rainbow, sun and cloud
  - \* Sparkle time
  - \* Certificates
- Gold 'Altogether Award'
- (Anti-bullying programme)



# Rewards



- ✓ Golden Certificates
- ✓ Values Certificates
- ✓ Reading Stars
- ✓ Sparkle Time
- ✓ Handwriter of the Week

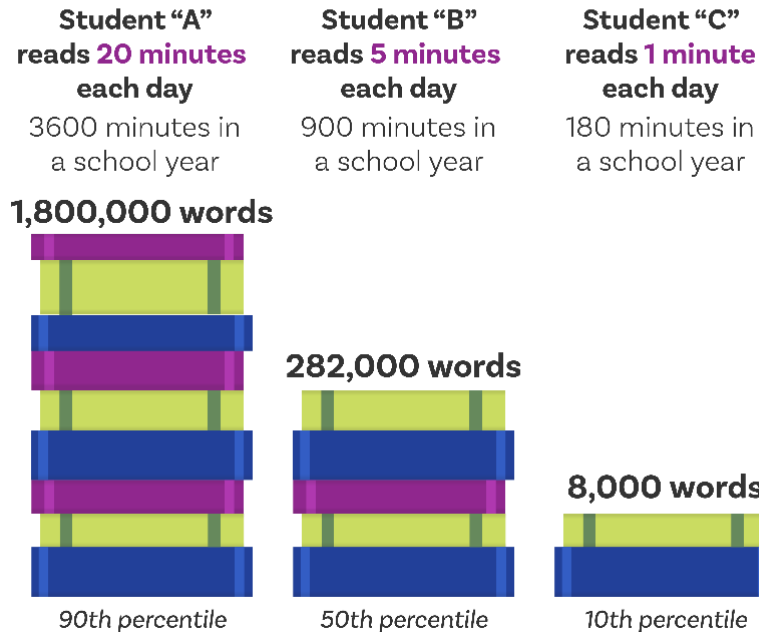
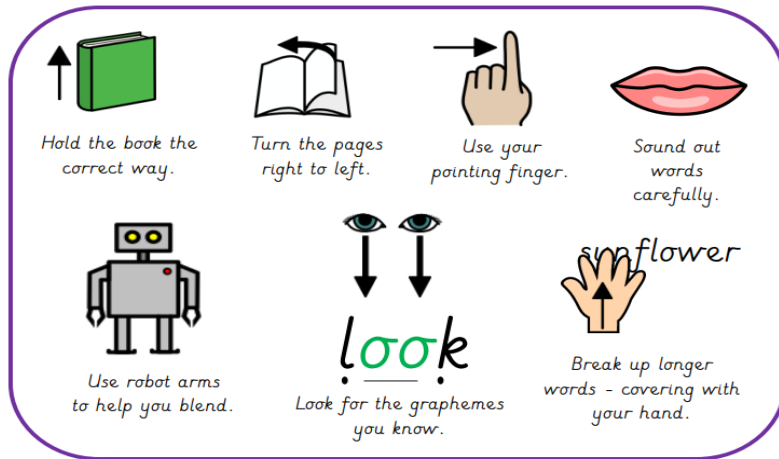


# The importance of Reading



- ✓ Reading is key to all learning
- ✓ 'The best writers are always readers' (Pie Corbett)
- ✓ School policy - minimum of 3 home reads a week

## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



# The importance of Reading



- ✓ Usually a more challenging text will be read in school than the one sent home
- ✓ Focus on phonics – sounding out and blending
- ✓ Comprehension focus during guided reading sessions
- ✓ Celebrate reading successes
- ✓ Changing reading books
- ✓ Library books
- ✓ Language development
- ✓ We encourage reading for enjoyment

# Learning at home



## Daily

Reading (at least three times a week)

## Weekly

- Maths – on back of weekly sheet.
- Spellings (will not start until approx. Spring 2)

## Topic

- Open-ended activity
- Research

Have Fun 😊

# KS1 Phonics Check



- ✓ Statutory and takes place in June each year
- ✓ Children are asked to read 40 words
- ✓ 20 are 'alien' words – words that are not real but are decodable
- ✓ 20 are real words
- ✓ The pass mark is 32 and you will be informed at the end of the year how your child has done
- ✓ Passing the checker shows your child is able to decode and blend words that include up to phonics Phase 5 sounds
- ✓ Even if they pass this check, they may still need extra support with reading
- ✓ If they don't pass, they will be supported further to do so in Year 2
- ✓ Last year, we achieved a pass rate of 90%, well above national average.
- ✓ There will be a parents' meeting about this closer to the time

# General Information



- ✓ PE/Outdoor Games – all classes will do PE on Wednesdays and Thursdays
- ✓ Water bottles – please name them
- ✓ Earrings – studs only and please take them out for PE days
- ✓ PE kit – all items named
- ✓ Appropriate clothing for colder weather (PE too)
- ✓ Collection arrangements (needs to be in writing)
- ✓ Check the website & other communications
- ✓ Clubs – letters have already been sent for Autumn 1
- ✓ No toys brought into school (e.g. in/on book bags)
- ✓ Please involve your child with hot school meal choices – we often have children that don't like what they have!

# Home and school links



## We really value your support:

- United with a common purpose – Children First
- Become a parent helper/reading volunteer (please see letter early in Autumn Term and contact class teacher, school office or Mrs Doyle)
- Please volunteer to help on school trips if available
- Join and/or support our PTA

## We want to support you too:

- School run training sessions, e.g. phonics check and maths workshops in the Autumn Term
- Parents' consultation evenings (twice a year)
- School website
- School social media
- Topic Newsletters – sent every half term



*Parent Teachers  
Association (PTA)*

*'Friends of Ad Astra'*

# PTA Events



*Thank you for coming.*



*Please do visit your child's teacher in their  
new classroom.*

