



**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Dolphins Class - we hope you had a lovely Christmas break! We start the Spring Term with a new topic '**Magnificent Monarchs**'. This is a History based topic which covers some really fun themes. Please see the Topic Plan attached for the activities your child will be engaging in. We will link some of our literacy to this topic by writing stories about magic journeys and some non-fiction writing in the form of a fact file about a particular monarch we have learnt about.

### **Timetable and Routines**

There is no change to your child's teaching team this term, but we do have a student joining us in Year 1. It will be lovely to have additional support for the children this term.

- Your class teacher, **Tessa James**
- Your full time Teaching Assistant, **Paula Parsons**
- **Clare Russell**, our Arts and Music specialist
- **Tom Poole** our sports coach

### **Communication**

As you know, I use Dojo to communicate with you all. Please do let me know if you are struggling to use it as I don't duplicate the communication in any other forum. Parent feedback was that there were too many platforms being used, so I have stuck to just the one. The office and leadership team also use Dojo to keep you updated, so it really is worth ensuring you have access and receive notifications.

### **Our Curriculum- C360**



At Woolacombe our curriculum 360 (C360) is built upon four cornerstones:  
*Character, Community, Excellence and Innovation.*

As part of our Character Education, the children will all partake in the Inspiring Changemaker Challenges. The children have already completed 2 – Inspiring Adventurer and Inspiring Learner. They will receive certificates and badges as a celebration of their achievements at the

end of the year. The aim is for the class to work towards a new challenge every half term. See below for the full list of challenges.

Inspiring Adventurer  
Inspiring Speaker  
Inspiring Learner  
Inspiring Leader  
Inspiring Researcher  
Inspiring Volunteer

### Phonics and Reading



Your children have made a brilliant start with their phonics and reading. Some of you may be aware that there is a Government requirement for Year 1 children to undertake a phonics screening which will take place in June. Please do not worry or feel that you need to 'prepare' your children for this. The process has been part of their learning in Year 1 and we treat it as a normal part of their lessons.

The total number of reads each week has been great for many of the children. Now that we are back into a new term, can you try to read 5 times a week with your child. This really does have a huge impact on their progress and helps them in all subjects. I'm hoping that you have all seen amazing progress in your children's reading. I'm incredibly proud of the progress they are making.

### Maths

We continue to build our knowledge of place value, but this term moving up to 20. Counting on from a given number forwards and backwards. Daily maths fluency sessions concentrate on number facts, one more, one less, number bonds to 10 initially and 20. Any games at home that use a dice and require counting up and down are really useful to support our learning in class. I will print out and provide some easy games to play at home with your child as I know some of you didn't get the last set.

### General Information

Don't forget to book your child's school dinners, or record them as a packed lunch (the cut off is 12pm the night before). Please contact the office if you have any more questions regarding payments.

Full school uniform must be worn, including black shoes. Long hair must be tied back, no hair products please. If your child has piercings, please ensure they are small studs. **PE will be on Thursdays and Fridays** this half term, so please ensure that your child wears their full kit into school on this day. A spare PE kit should also be left in school in case your child needs a change of clothes. The weather can still be very wet, cold and windy in the Spring term!

**PE kits must include:** a school hoodie, hat, gloves, trainers, black tracksuit trousers or leggings, a spare white shirt and socks. A plastic bag kept inside the PE bag is always useful too, for muddy trainers.

**Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat in school every day and that all items are labelled with your child's name!**

Thank-you for sending your children in with healthy snacks, please continue to do this. We don't generally stop for an afternoon snack now, but morning snacks are still required. If your child has a packed lunch, no plastic bags please. We are a plastic free school so reusable containers only, and ensure that they are clearly named.

### **Dates To Remember**

- Arlington trip date TBC, but penciled in for Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 13<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term

If you require further information or have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch via Class Dojo or email!

*Mrs James and the Year 1 Team*