



Woolacombe School



5th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Dolphins Class - we hope you had a lovely Summer break! We start the year with the topic '**Childhood**'. Our main focus these first few weeks is on your child's wellbeing and making their transition into Year 1 an exciting and positive experience. Through this topic, we will get to know your child and learn about what is important to them; helping us settle them back into school life. Year 1 builds on their time in Reception and as they progress through the year, the children adapt to a more structured routine. The children will continue to make and reinforce friendships whilst ensuring they are happy and increasingly independent in their learning. Please see the Topic Plan attached for the activities your child will be engaging in.

Timetable and Routines

Your child's teaching team comprises of:

- Your class teacher, **Tessa James**
- Your full time Teaching Assistant, **Paula Parsons**
- **Clare Russell**, our Arts and Music specialist
- **Natalie Gibson** PE specialist

Days and times vary but the below timetable gives you an indication of what your child is learning each day and which teacher will be leading the session.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tessa James Phonics, Maths, Literacy	Tessa James Phonics, Maths, Literacy	Clare Russell Phonics, PHSE, Literacy, PE with Miss Gibson	Tessa James Phonics, Maths, Literacy	Tessa James Phonics, Maths, Literacy
Tessa James Assembly, MFL Reading	Tessa James Handwriting, History/Geography Reading	Clare Russell Art and Music	Tessa James Handwriting, Science, Reading	Tessa James Handwriting, RE & PE

Communication

We have transferred the **Class Dojo** account over to Year 1 so please use this method for communication. I ONLY use this method, so there is no confusion as to where to find information. You can comment on stories or send me messages. I will respond as soon as I can,

however during the working day, I usually have my hands full. If there is something urgent and needs responding during the day, please call the office.

If you are new to the school, please can you make sure you are signed up to the Class Dojo App by the end of the week. Once you have signed up you will be sent the most up to date news, reminders and stories about your child's learning. It is a great way for us to communicate and share your child's fun throughout the week.

Our Curriculum- C360



At Woolacombe our curriculum 360 (C360) is built upon four cornerstones:

Character, Community, Excellence and Innovation.

Our team all believe in the school vision to 'leave no stone unturned' in the pursuit of an enriching and broad experience for all children. We are committed to helping our children develop and evolve during their time with us and beyond.

We are part of the Alumnis Multi Academy Trust, regularly working with a collection of local schools to share outstanding practice and better the outcomes of all local children.

See the school website for more information about our vision, values and curriculum.

Phonics and Reading



We will be following the Little Wandle scheme for phonics. We would love you to come and spend some time with us to understand how Phonics is taught at Woolacombe and will be running a Phonics open meeting later this month.

Maths

We begin the year embedding our knowledge of place value. Counting forwards and backwards from 0 to 100. Daily maths fluency sessions will give them the tools and confidence to tackle maths as we move into addition, subtraction, division and multiplication later in the year. These sessions concentrate on number facts, one more, one less, number bonds to 10 initially and then number bonds to 20. Any games at home that use a dice and require counting up and down are really useful to support our learning in class. Later in the term, we will provide some easy games to play at home with your child.

General Information

You should have all received an email invite to 'School Money'. Here you book your child's school dinners, or record them as a packed lunch (the cut off is 12pm the night before), book morning and after school clubs, and pay for trips and equipment. Please also enter if your child has a home school packed lunch so we don't provide a school dinner. Please contact the office if you have any more questions.

Full school uniform must be worn, including black shoes. Long hair must be tied back, no hair products please. **PE will be on Wednesdays 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. They can get wet and muddy in the Autumn 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 labeled with your child's name!

Please could you send in a fruit or vegetable snack for your child to have at break time. If your child brings in an unhealthy snack we will ask them to bring it back home and replace it with school fruit. 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



- Our 'Meet the Teacher' meeting will take place on Thursday 14th September at 2.30 in the Year 1 Classroom.
- Phonics Open Meeting Monday September 18th 5.30-6.30pm - location TBC on Dojo.
- Parent Mental Health Workshop - October 13th 9- 10.30am - location TBC on Dojo.
- Harvest Festival - October 19th 1.30pm at the Church, parents welcome.
- Inset Day - October 20th.
- 22nd - 27th October – 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