**ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND**

**(VA) FIRST SCHOOL**

**3rd June 2019**

**Year 1 Newsletter 6**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our final half term in Year 1! I hope everyone has had a relaxing break and is ready for the remaining Summer term.

This half term we will be exploring the topic of ‘Parks’. This will include a visit to Gosforth Central Park on Monday 1st July. Whilst there we will have a tour of the park, the opportunity to explore the wildlife area and an art workshop looking at the work of Andy Goldsworthy. The volunteers of Gosforth Central Park have kindly donated their time to organise and run this visit. We will need parent volunteers for the day in order to run the trip and support groups to complete the activities. Please let me know on parentmail if you can volunteer to support the trip. We would also like to invite parents/grandparents to join us in the park for lunch on the day at 12.30pm. This will be followed by outdoor games in the park as well as the opportunity to go on bug hunts.

Other key dates for year 1 this half term are:

* Monday 10th June - Pentecost worship service in school
* Monday 10th June – Friday 14th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening Week (All children must attend school this week please)
* Wednesday 12th June – Class photographs
* Friday 14th June – Go banana’s in PJs for The Sunshine Fund and Ronald McDonald house.
* Friday 21st June – Unveiling of school sculpture
* Monday 24th June - Visit to Newcastle University Mosque
* Tuesday 25th June – No Outsiders PSHE Lesson
* Friday 28th June – Non-Uniform day for PTFA
* Thursday 4th July – Transition day
* Friday 5th July – Reports sent home
* Saturday 6th July – PTFA summer fair and BBQ (3pm – 6pm)
* Monday 8th - Friday 12th July – PE Week
* Monday 8th July – Tyne and Wear fire service fire, water and beach safety
* Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th July – Drop in parents evening (No appointment necessary)
* Friday 12th July – Sports day
* Tuesday 16th July – Forest School
* Friday 19th July – End of school year and Picnic in the playground

Parks such as Jesmond Dene and Leazes Park are great places to visit if you would like to share and support your child’s learning linked to our Park topic. You could spend time looking for different types of animals or discuss the human and physical feature of the park.

Reading books will, again, usually be changed on a Tuesday morning, when children will be given two books to read during the following week. We will occasionally keep book bags overnight if we have not had time to change books during the school day. Please remember to re-read texts to develop their fluency and pace; these are skills which are hard to establish in a first read through, so we would ask that children read both books at least twice before the following Tuesday. Please make a short comment in your child’s reading record each time you hear them read. There is now a questioning prompt in the front of your child’s reading record, this is a useful resource to build children’s inference skills. Please could you also ensure book bags are brought to school everyday, checked for letters every night and old letters removed, thank you.

PE will usually be taught on a Tuesday or Thursday, as well as the Golden Mile each week. PE kits should be left in school (on cloakroom pegs) and should contain a pair of named trainers for outdoor PE lessons. It would be very helpful if any child with long hair could have their hair tied up in a ponytail on this day too.  As the weather begins to get warmer, PE lessons will take place outdoors more often, therefore it is important that children bring a pair of named trainers in their PE kits. Please do not send in trainers with laces unless children are able to tie them.

Children should also bring in a water bottle each Monday. Please remember this should be filled with water only. This will then be sent home each Friday to be washed, ready for the following week. A healthy snack is also provided each day for children in Year 1.

Homework will continue to be sent out on a Thursday, to be returned the following Tuesday. This will be either one page of English or Phonics, one page of maths and spellings. These spellings will continue to form a spelling quiz in class each Thursday. This will give children a full week to practice at home. The best way to practice these spellings is for children to look at the word, say the word, cover and write the word and finally check it.

I am very grateful for the parents who already volunteering in our classroom. If any other parents feel they can give any spare time in an afternoon, or help out on visits, please speak to myself or Mrs McCloud.

If you have any questions, please do pop in to see me at the end of the school day, once all children have been dismissed or if you would prefer to contact me by email, the address is: katie.wilkinson@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk.

I look forward to the final half term and all the exciting things we are going to learn about in Year 1!

Yours sincerely

Miss Wilkinson