



## ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND (VA) FIRST SCHOOL

**24<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

### Year 1 Newsletter 4

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a lovely break and is feeling ready for the challenge of the term ahead.

This half term we will be exploring the topic of 'Pirates'. This will begin with a visit from Captain Raggybeard on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. This will involve many fun activities such as, walking the plank and learning a sea shanty. Back in the classroom, we will develop our map skills in order to learn about the seas and continents which pirates may have explored. We will also look at the work of the artist Joseph Turner before creating our own seascapes.

In Year 1, reading books will, again, usually be changed on a Tuesday morning, when children will be given two/three books to read over the week. We will occasionally keep them overnight if we have been unable to change the books so they can be done after school. As part of the curriculum, it is important that children re-read texts to increase their fluency and pace. These are skills which are difficult to establish in a first read, so we would ask that children read both books, at least twice, before the following Tuesday. Please remember to write a short note about your child's understanding of the book in the reading record each time you listen to them read. Please also ensure book bags are brought to school every day and checked for letters every evening and old letters are removed.

PE days this half term are Tuesday and Thursday. PE kits should be left in school (on cloakroom pegs) and should contain a pair of plimsolls/trainers for outdoor lessons. Please do not bring in laced shoes unless your child can tie them independently. It would be very helpful if any child with long hair could have their hair tied up in a ponytail on this day, and if your child has earrings, if they can be taken out on this day too. Thank you. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school on Monday to be returned home on Friday.

Homework will continue to be sent out on a Thursday, to be returned the following Tuesday. This will be one page of English, one page of Maths and spellings linked to the sound we have been learning in class and some year 1 'Exception' words (which we cannot use our phonics for.)

I am very grateful for the parents/helpers who are already volunteering in our classroom. If any other parents feel they can donate any (regular) spare time, who would like to come into school to help – there's always jobs to do! Some parents enjoy working with small groups of children, others like to laminate, change books etc. If anyone could donate an hour of their time to change reading books each week, I would really appreciate it. If you have DBS clearance and are interested in helping out, please speak to me or Mrs Pygall.

If you would like to contact me by email, the address is: [natalie.young@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:natalie.young@archbishop.newcastle.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely

Miss Young

Dates for the diary:

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Visit from Captain Raggybeard

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February- Parent Council Meeting - 9am

2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March – Book week

Thursday 5<sup>h</sup> March - World Book Day - Children invited to dress as a book character.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March - Visit to Gosforth Library

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>-Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - Science Week

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March - Centre for Life visit - 10-2pm

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Persian New Year

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Year 1-4 Mother's Day Service - 9am

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - World Water Day

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Forest School - 1.30pm

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April - Autism Awareness Day

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Easter Service All Saints Church - 1.30pm –all welcome

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April-Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April –Easter Holidays

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Phonics Screen Workshop for Parents - 9am

#### Other trips and visits

Summer 1 Dobbies Garden Centre Visit - Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup> (cost £5)

Summer 2 Central Park Visit - Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June