**ARCHBISHOP RUNCIE CHURCH of ENGLAND**

**(VA) FIRST SCHOOL**

**7th January 2020**

Year 1 Newsletter 3

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone has had an amazing Christmas break and is feeling ready for the challenge of the term ahead. I had a very relaxing break and I am excited to

welcome the children back to school.

This half term we will be exploring the topic of ‘Space’. This will start with a visit to the Great North Museum and Planetarium on Tuesday 14th January. Whilst there we will become astronauts and

explore the night sky above us. We also have the opportunity to explore the museum after the

Planetarium visit. Back in the classroom we will be using our 5 senses to explore the world around us, as well as, investigating famous astronaut Neil Armstrong and why we remember him.

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 during the day 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 everyday and checked for letters every evening and old

letters are removed.

PE will usually be taught on a Tuesday and Thursday this half term. 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.

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 Common Exception words.

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 you have DBS clearance, and are interested in helping out, please speak to me or Mrs Pygall.

If you have any questions, please do pop in to see me at the end of the school day.

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

Yours sincerely,

Miss Young

Dates for the diary:

Tuesday 14th January – Visit to Great North Hancock Museum

Thursday 16th January - Children’s Choice Lunch

Thursday 16th January - PTFA Film Night

Thursday 23rd January -Road Safety Session

Friday 24th January- Chinese New Year Celebrations in school.

Thursday 30th January -Managing children’s behaviour workshop for parents - 5.00pm

Friday 31st January- Managing children’s behaviour workshop for parents - 9.00am

Monday 10th February - Parents Evening

Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 11th February - Gosforth Gets Going Event at GPFS - 9.30-10.30

Tuesday 11th February - Parents Evening

Thursday 13th February - PTFA Valentine’s Disco

Friday 14th February - Love is….Worship, led by Year 1

Other trips and visits

Spring 2 - Captain Raggy Beard Visit/Pirate Day (In school) – Monday 24th February (Cost £5)

Summer 1 Dobbies Garden Centre Visit - Wednesday May 6th (Cost £5)

Friday 15th May - Phonics Screen Meeting for parents 9.00-9.15am

Summer 2 Central Park Visit - Wednesday 1st July