

Year 1 Newsletter

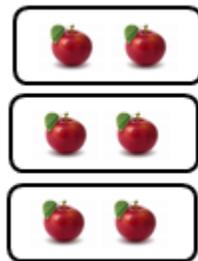
Friday 7th February 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

In English, we have continued writing our own fact files. IV wrote about penguins and 1E wrote about polar bears.

In Phonics lessons this week, we have learnt the alternative spellings for 'air' which are 'ear' like in bear and 'are' like in share.

This week in Maths, we have continued to count rows of equal groups of items and linked this to repeated addition. Using counters and jottings, the children have created their own arrays to show this information and have started to use these to show multiplying by 2. Next week, we will continue with learning the 2x table and make connections with doubling numbers.



There are **3** rows.

There are **2** apples in each row.

$$3 \text{ lots of } 2 = 6$$

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

In CCL, we have focused on the History element of our topic and found out about Captain Scott's race to the South Pole. We sorted old and new items between two base camps and discussed what it might have been like for an explorer in 1912 compared to a modern day explorer. The children were very intrigued to find out about the differences and to see some of the equipment close up. Next week, we will be moving on to the DT element of this topic. As we know all explorers like to plant a flag when they reach their destination; the children are going to plan and stitch their own flag.



On the reverse of this letter, there are some top tips for supporting your child with joining their handwriting. We will encourage your child to join when we think they have mastered the school handwriting style – you will see this in their Spelling Book when they have begun to join.

Important Dates for your Diaries:

Wednesday 12th February: Y1 Open Door 2.40pm

Many Thanks
Year One team

Joined Handwriting

In Year 1 we are now learning how to join our handwriting. Here are some tips to help your child at home:

1. We never join to a capital letter
2. We always wait until we have finished the word before dotting the letter **i** or crossing the letter **t**
3. Letters that finish at the bottom, on the line, join from the bottom. Letters that finish at the top then join into the next letter from the top/horizontally. Some examples:

Bottom joins:

abcdefghijklmnopqstu

Top (horizontal) joins:

o r v w

e.g. rope wow vote

The letters **x** and **z** do not join to other letters as **x** requires you to lift off your pencil regardless and **z** can become tricky to read if joined. In Year 1, we avoid joining the letter **r** as it can look like an **n** if not joined correctly.

Your child's handwriting needs to be accurate before they can begin joining. They must write with a clear difference between tall (ascending) letters and short letters. Capital letters must be the biggest letter in the word. They must remember their 'whoops' (entry stroke) and their 'flick' (exit stroke) to be ready to join.