

# Welcome to Year 1



## **Staff**

Class Teacher: Miss Noonan

TA: Miss Bradshaw

TA: Miss Hutton



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely summer. I am really looking forward to working with you and your children this year as they continue their learning journey in Key Stage 1. Below I have listed some key information for this year including an insight into the topics that the children will be learning about in Year 1.

### **A bit about the class teacher**

I completed my teacher training at Edge Hill University in 2023 specialising in Early Years and recently completed a Master's degree specialising in Education (Children and Young People's Mental Health). I have worked with this class since February, and I have really enjoyed getting to know them all and I look forward to continuing supporting their learning in Year 1 alongside Miss Bradshaw and Miss Hutton.

If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to speak with me so that I can sort these out as soon as possible. You can also contact me via email at [knoonan@moorside-academy.co.uk](mailto:knoonan@moorside-academy.co.uk) or using the Class Dojo messaging feature.

### **A bit about Year 1**

In Year 1, we will build on the strong foundations laid in Reception and the children begin to develop greater independence, curiosity, and confidence. Learning will look slightly different than in Reception as there is a more structured approach. The children will be expected to complete more work but there will still be a practical aspect to their lessons and an opportunity to continue their learning in continuous provision. Our priority over the next few weeks is to ensure that the children adjust and settle into their new class.

### **Topics**

1. *Super Stories*
2. *Wonderful Weather*
3. *Dinosaurs*
4. *Kings and Queens*
5. *Animal Antics*
6. *Seaside*

## Reading & Phonics Screening Check

Reading will continue to be a key focus this year as the class prepares for the statutory Government Phonics Screening Check in June 2026. Children will take part in daily phonics lessons, shared reading, guided reading, and will also have regular one-to-one reading opportunities throughout the week. Consistent practice will make a significant difference to your child's progress and will help them feel confident and prepared for the Phonics Screening Check. If you require any support with reading at home, please do not hesitate to ask. Children will also have access to books and games on their Active Learn accounts, alongside the texts provided in their reading folders. If your child reads online, please make a note of this in their yellow reading record.

## Why is reading so important?

Reading is crucial for Moorside children as it lays the foundation for academic success, improves thinking skills and enhances emotional and social development. We firmly believe that EVERY child is a reader and that EVERY future job they will have, will need them to be! Reading books helps children develop their basic language skills and profoundly expands their vocabularies far more effectively than any screen can. Through reading, children become critical thinkers, develop their understanding of right and wrong and begin to determine their own set of values. Books develop children's imagination, expanding their worlds. They offer a world of information, experience and knowledge, helping us discover where we come from, while inspiring and providing us with the tools to dream about where we would like to go. Best of all, reading is free! Children use our school library regularly to borrow books and can also access the local public library near The Concourse.

**The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you will go.**  
— Dr. Seuss

## What you can do to help your child.

Reading fluency only improves with practice and we therefore ask that you support your child by encouraging them to **read as often as possible at home (a minimum of 3 times a week)**, either with you (younger children) or independently (older children). Reading is a key strength in our school due to the **AMAZING** partnership we have with school and home. This year, classes will be rewarded when they collectively read so many times, so every read will be recorded and the more they read, the more treats their class will get!

### **Spellings**

Spellings will be sent out each Friday and the children will have a weekly spelling test the following Friday. This will be non-pressured and is designed to help the children to embed the spelling of tricky words/high frequency words etc.

### **Magic Breakfast & Snack**

The children will each receive a free breakfast each morning. During morning break time, the children will be offered a bagel or slice of toast. In the afternoon the children will be offered a piece of fruit. If your child is bringing in an item for breakfast/snack, please can you ensure that this is a healthy option.

### **School Lunch**

All children in Key Stage One are entitled to a free school lunch each day. This includes two hot options and the choice of sandwiches or jacket potatoes. Children can still bring in a packed lunch if they wish to do so.

### **PE**

This half term PE will be on a **Tuesday Morning** and a **Wednesday afternoon**. Children can come to school dressed on PE days dressed in their PE kits (black shorts, joggers or leggings and a white t-shirt with either a black jacket or hoodie). We kindly ask that these are appropriate for sports both indoors and outdoors and that trainers or pumps are worn.

### **Toys**

As we have many interesting and exciting toys in class already we ask that children do not bring toys in to school in case they get lost or broken.

### **School Uniform**

We kindly request that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name to help ensure that children go home with the correct uniform. The children are responsible for looking after their own jumpers/cardigans and by ensuring that they are clearly labelled it makes them much easier to find. Please ask a member of staff if you would like us to label them. We also ask that children keep their jumpers/cardigans in their trays to keep them safe.

### **Class Dojo**

Photographs, spellings, and messages will be uploaded to the class dojo app. If you need any help with signing up, then please do let me know. You can also contact me via the messaging feature.

Thank you in advance for your continued support, I am really looking forward to working with this wonderful class.

Miss Noonan (Class Teacher) 😊