



# Welcome to Year 1!

Welcome to Year 1, Hedgehog Class!

I am Miss Carter and I am looking forward to a brand new year in Hedgehogs! This letter contains some important information about next year along with some activities you may wish to complete with your child over the summer.

As a school, we will be moving over to the Quigley Essentials Curriculum and the White Rose Maths Curriculum from September. Further details regarding subject content and class timetables will be shared with you at welcome meetings in September.

## Important Dates

1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 - First day back at school.

5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 3:20pm - Year 1 Welcome Meeting to parents.

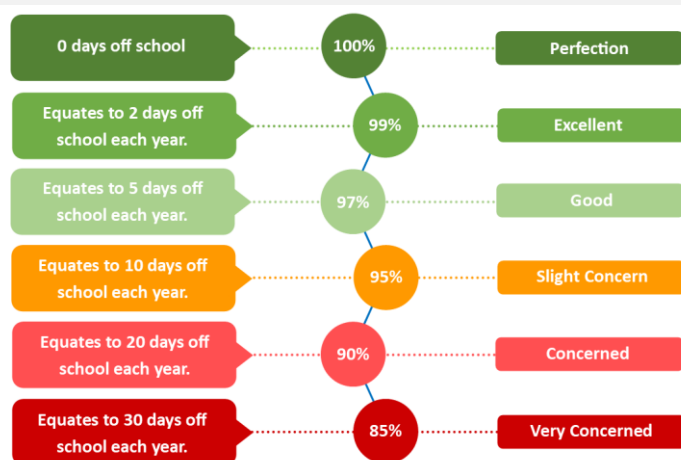
## School Values

Over the past academic year, we have reviewed our school values to ensure they reflect our aspirations for all the children at Shorne. Our new Christian values are: **Respect, Community and Resilience**. These will form the basis of our collective worships for the first few weeks of the first academic term, and each value will be linked to two Bible stories that will be shared with all families and the children in September.

## Attendance

Your child's attendance at school is of the utmost importance; it directly impacts on pupil wellbeing and achievement. Pupil attendance is closely monitored and we expect pupils to attend the entirety of their school offering during term time. The national expectation for pupil attendance is 96% and above. If your child's attendance drops below this, support systems will be put in place to help increase attendance. Holidays in term time are not permitted. Please also ensure your child is in school on time by 8:50am.

Please read our attendance policy which outlines procedures related to pupil absence.



## Illness



We appreciate that from time-to-time, children do suffer from illness. If your child is unwell, please consider carefully the necessity to keep them off from school. Please visit the NHS Live Well website to support you with this decision: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>. Please make medical/dental appointments outside of school time where possible.

If your child has ongoing health issues, the school will be aware and will work with families to support the child's health alongside their school attendance.

## What does your child need in September?

Please ensure your child has a **book bag**. The children's pegs are in the classroom and there is therefore limited space. Rucksacks and large bags are not necessary and discouraged, and your child does not need a pencil case. Your child will need a **water bottle** and a **mid-morning snack**, these will be kept in our classroom 'snack trays'. Water bottles can be refilled when needed and your child will also be allowed fresh fruit provided by the school. A **full P.E. kit** should be sent in from week one. Your child will need **trainers** as well as **plimsolls**. For our art lessons, your child will need an **apron/old t-shirt**, these will stay at school for the year; please ensure all items, included water bottles and mid-morning snacks are clearly named.

## Reading and Phonics

In Year 1 we will be continuing to use 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' for phonics. All the children will be assessed within the first two weeks to ensure they continue their learning at a level that is suitable for them. This information will be shared with you. Whatever level your child is working at, the expectation is that the



children should read daily. Your child will receive a Reading Record book in Term 1. Please fill this in each time your child reads to you or with you at home, and we will fill it in at school too. Your child will show their reading record book to an adult, **every morning**, and if they have read they will receive a stamp and **3 Monster Points**. Monster Points are given to the children throughout the school day to reward many forms of good and outstanding behaviour. I will explain this in more detail during our Welcome Meeting in September.

Please see the **Summer Reading Challenge** for more opportunities for reading over the summer!

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### Classroom routines and expectations

The children will come into the classroom in morning via the external door. For the first few weeks the children will have access to a range of activities to support them socially, then the children will be expected to come into school and complete Early Morning Work activities related to their learning. At home time, Mrs. Pitcher and I will see the children out of the classroom from the external classroom door. The children will only be allowed to leave the classroom if I can see the adult who is collecting them. Please let myself and Mrs. Pitcher know via ClassDojo if someone different from usual will be collecting your child for safeguarding purposes.

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### Year group specific assessments

At the beginning of Term 6 in Year 1, all the children will take the Phonics Screening Check. It is a short, statutory assessment to ensure that children are making sufficient progress in the phonics skills to read words and are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning. You can look at past papers online (please check they are from 2019 onwards).

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### How to continue your child's learning over the summer holidays

- **Reading:** Hear your child read and also read to them as frequently as possible. Reading to your child allows them to experience more complex plots and vocabulary than they can read themselves. In Year 1 we continue to develop the whole reader. Learning key words is important and having a strong visual memory for words is great but it is vital your child fully understands what they are reading and develops their comprehension skills.
  - **Reading and Spelling:** I have attached the 'tricky words' your child should know before they enter Year 1, and the words they will be learning this year. As the past few years have been very challenging, it is possible that there may be gaps in the children's learning. Before we start looking at the Year 1 'tricky words', we will go over the words attached.
  - **Writing:** Encourage your child to continue to write for a purpose, for example, shopping lists, postcards and diaries.
  - **Mathematics:** Continue to recap on numbers to 100, number bonds to 20, different coins and telling the time to o'clock and half past.
  - **Summer Diary:** Over the summer holidays, I would like your child to complete a summer diary about what they have been doing. Please include writing, pictures, drawings and anything else you would like. You can create a booklet with paper, purchase cheap scrap books which work nicely, or you can contact us if you would like to take an old exercise book.
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## Other activities available for children over the summer holidays

### Sumdog for Spelling and Mathematics



Parents can sign up to access an online program called 'Sumdog' for free over the summer holidays! Sumdog is a fun and free online resource that supports mathematics and spelling. You can sign up for a free trial on <https://www.sumdog.com/en/parents/>. Please note, you will need to add payment details but it is free access all summer, and you will receive an email notification to cancel.

### Summer Reading Challenge!

All children can access the Summer Reading Challenge, a national competition led by libraries. There are 2 ways to participate:

1. Visit your local library to collect a Gadgeteers pack for your child. Set a goal to read over the summer (6 books is the recommended goal). Borrow and read books (including eBooks and audiobooks) from the library to read. Collect incentives from the library for each book they read, and if they complete their goal, receive a certificate and medal as a reward from the library for taking part.
2. Sign up online at: [www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk). Set a personal reading goal and receive tips for accessing books for free at home. Log books read online on your child's personal profile, and 'unlock' incentives and an online certificate.



### Other things to do this summer in Kent and Medway

Here are some ideas, both free and paid for, that may be useful for summer and beyond!

<https://letsgowiththechildren.co.uk/places-to-go/kent/>

<https://www.visitmedway.org/visit-medway-blog/unique-and-unforgettable-days-out-in-medway/>