

# Year 1 Newsletter

September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1 and welcome back to another school year. We hope that you and your families have had a relaxing and safe holiday break, ready for the start of the new term.

This newsletter will give you information about some of the things that your child will be learning about during this term. We hope that you find it helpful but please do not hesitate to ask throughout the year if you ever have any concerns or questions.

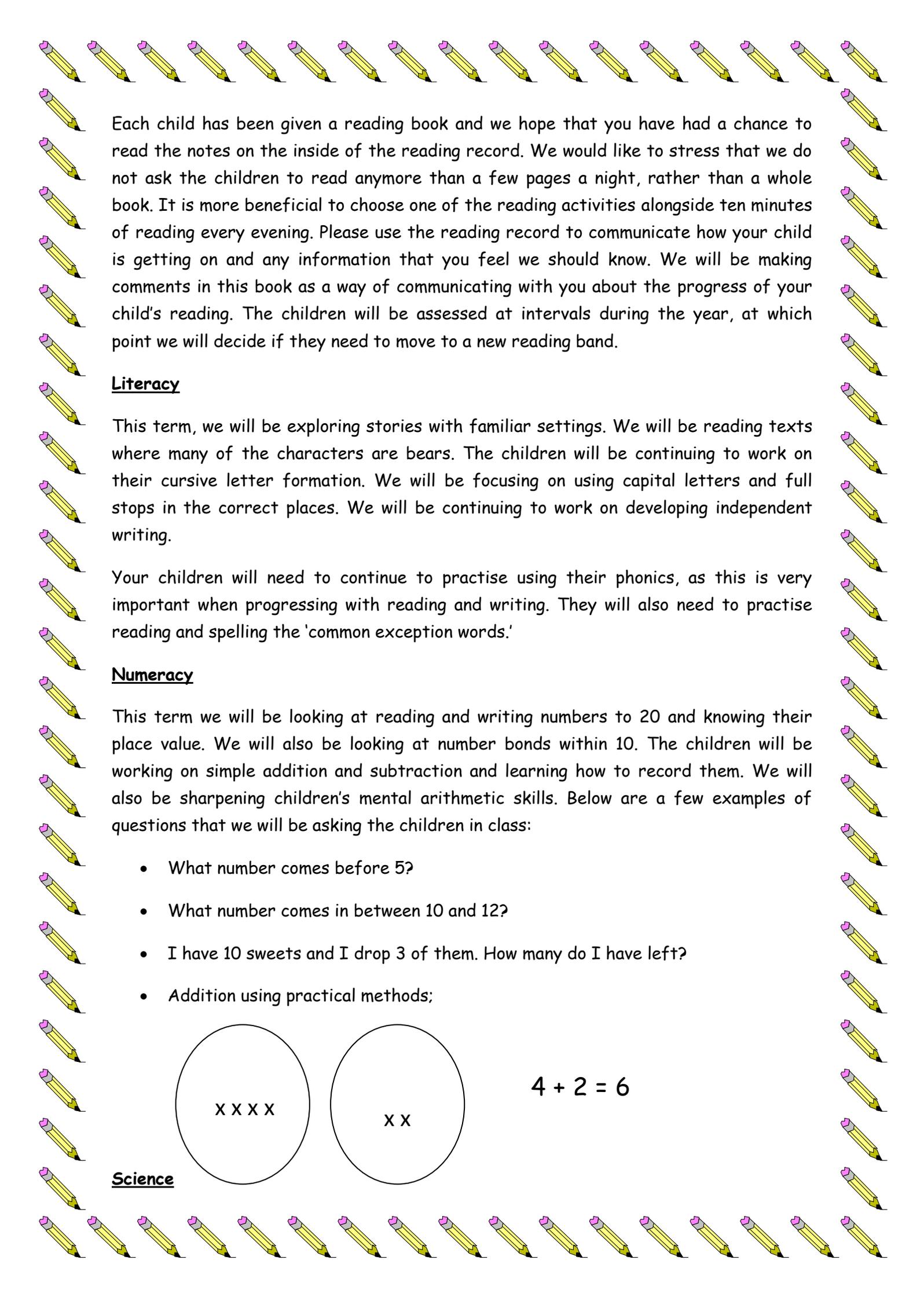
## Religion Topic

Our first topic is called 'Beginning With God'. We will be hearing and learning the story of Exodus. We will be describing what God is like and making a class book using metaphors to describe him. We will learn what Monotheism means and about the Trinity.

Key vocabulary includes:

- Moses
- Holy Spirit
- Monotheism
- Trinity
- Revelation
- Creation
- Human experience
- Scripture
- Tradition
- Exodus

## Reading



Each child has been given a reading book and we hope that you have had a chance to read the notes on the inside of the reading record. We would like to stress that we do not ask the children to read anymore than a few pages a night, rather than a whole book. It is more beneficial to choose one of the reading activities alongside ten minutes of reading every evening. Please use the reading record to communicate how your child is getting on and any information that you feel we should know. We will be making comments in this book as a way of communicating with you about the progress of your child's reading. The children will be assessed at intervals during the year, at which point we will decide if they need to move to a new reading band.

### Literacy

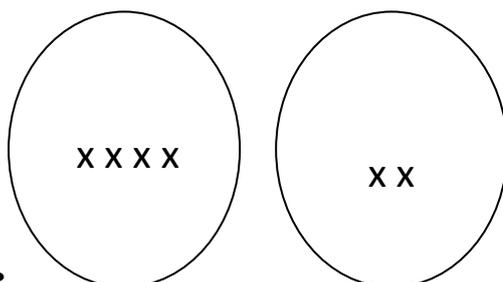
This term, we will be exploring stories with familiar settings. We will be reading texts where many of the characters are bears. The children will be continuing to work on their cursive letter formation. We will be focusing on using capital letters and full stops in the correct places. We will be continuing to work on developing independent writing.

Your children will need to continue to practise using their phonics, as this is very important when progressing with reading and writing. They will also need to practise reading and spelling the 'common exception words.'

### Numeracy

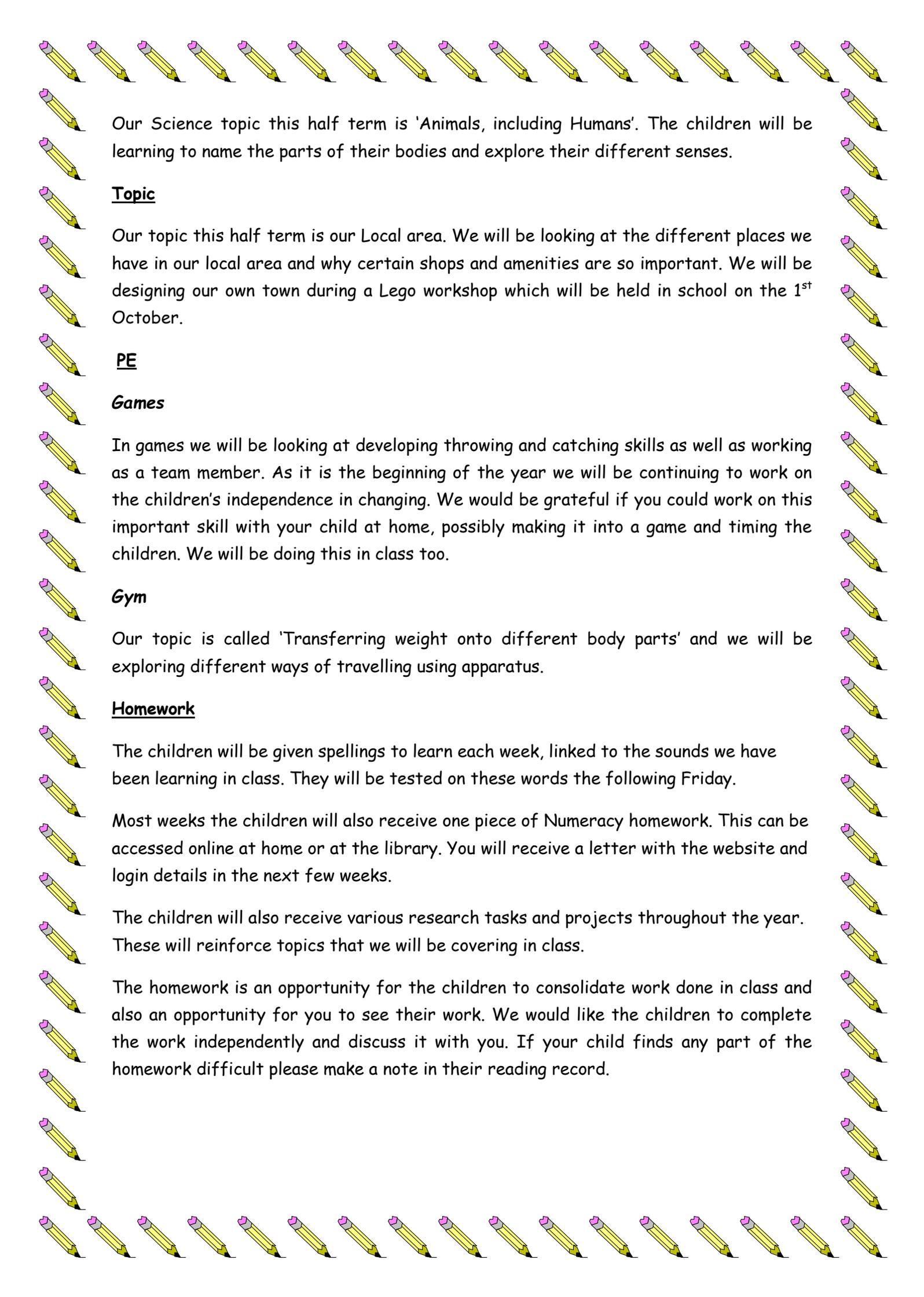
This term we will be looking at reading and writing numbers to 20 and knowing their place value. We will also be looking at number bonds within 10. The children will be working on simple addition and subtraction and learning how to record them. We will also be sharpening children's mental arithmetic skills. Below are a few examples of questions that we will be asking the children in class:

- What number comes before 5?
- What number comes in between 10 and 12?
- I have 10 sweets and I drop 3 of them. How many do I have left?
- Addition using practical methods;



$$4 + 2 = 6$$

### Science



Our Science topic this half term is 'Animals, including Humans'. The children will be learning to name the parts of their bodies and explore their different senses.

### Topic

Our topic this half term is our Local area. We will be looking at the different places we have in our local area and why certain shops and amenities are so important. We will be designing our own town during a Lego workshop which will be held in school on the 1<sup>st</sup> October.

### PE

#### *Games*

In games we will be looking at developing throwing and catching skills as well as working as a team member. As it is the beginning of the year we will be continuing to work on the children's independence in changing. We would be grateful if you could work on this important skill with your child at home, possibly making it into a game and timing the children. We will be doing this in class too.

#### *Gym*

Our topic is called 'Transferring weight onto different body parts' and we will be exploring different ways of travelling using apparatus.

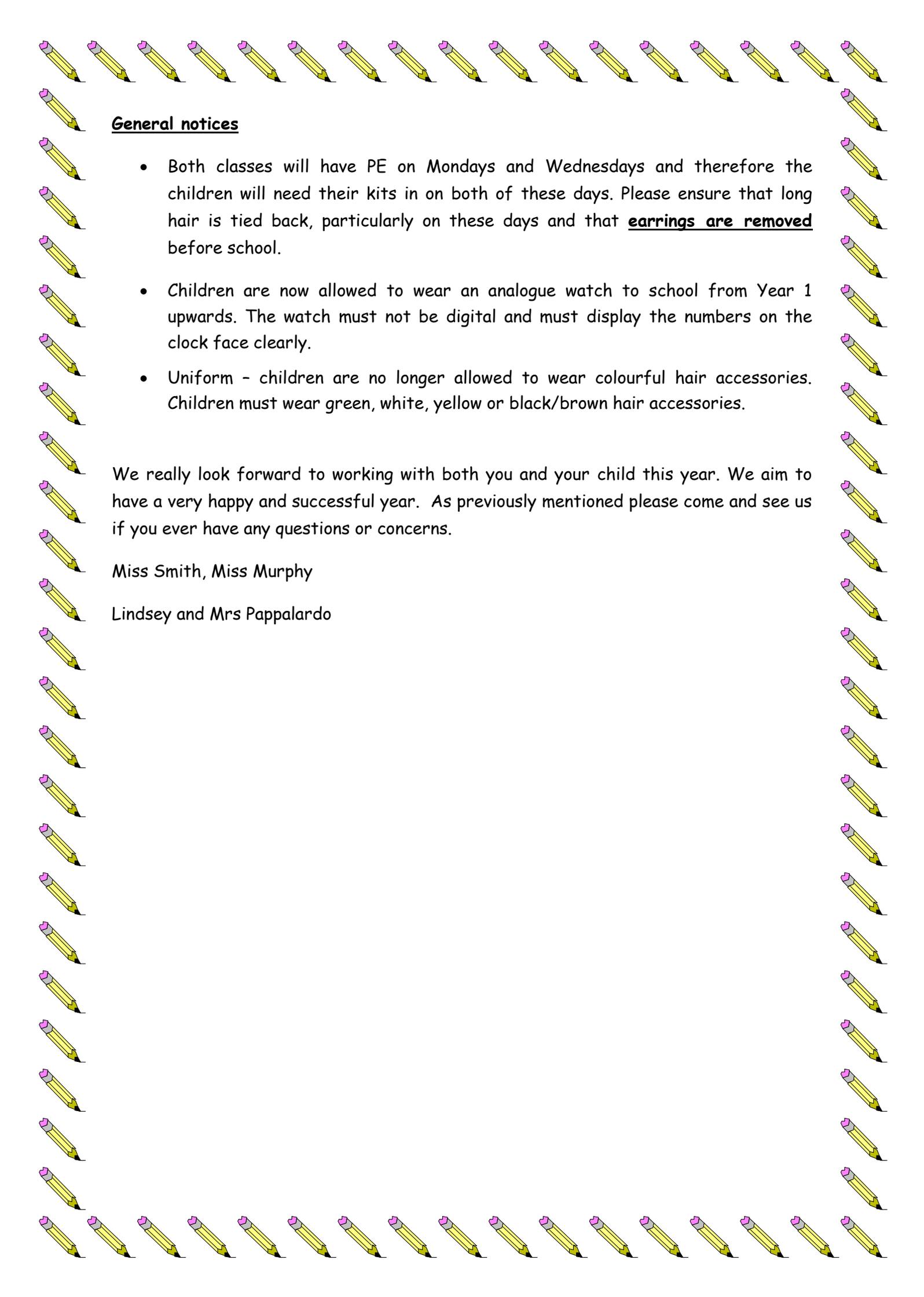
### Homework

The children will be given spellings to learn each week, linked to the sounds we have been learning in class. They will be tested on these words the following Friday.

Most weeks the children will also receive one piece of Numeracy homework. This can be accessed online at home or at the library. You will receive a letter with the website and login details in the next few weeks.

The children will also receive various research tasks and projects throughout the year. These will reinforce topics that we will be covering in class.

The homework is an opportunity for the children to consolidate work done in class and also an opportunity for you to see their work. We would like the children to complete the work independently and discuss it with you. If your child finds any part of the homework difficult please make a note in their reading record.



## General notices

- Both classes will have PE on Mondays and Wednesdays and therefore the children will need their kits in on both of these days. Please ensure that long hair is tied back, particularly on these days and that **earrings are removed** before school.
- Children are now allowed to wear an analogue watch to school from Year 1 upwards. The watch must not be digital and must display the numbers on the clock face clearly.
- Uniform - children are no longer allowed to wear colourful hair accessories. Children must wear green, white, yellow or black/brown hair accessories.

We really look forward to working with both you and your child this year. We aim to have a very happy and successful year. As previously mentioned please come and see us if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Miss Smith, Miss Murphy

Lindsey and Mrs Pappalardo