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Headteacher: Mr William Neighbour

18th September 2020

Dear Willow Class,

Thank you for an amazing start to the term, the children have all come into school with smiles and happy faces. It has been a pleasure to begin to get to know them. As you know already, my name is Mrs Fowler and this year is my second year in Newlands Primary School. Mrs Ware is our full time Learning Support in Willow.

These are strange times and there are different rules and routines around school now. The children have been amazing with this and have taken everything in their stride.

We are endeavouring to cover a broad and balanced curriculum covering all subjects. It means that there are some things we can do as normal, and some that we have to change and adapt. We are washing hands regularly throughout the day, Mrs Ware and I are cleaning the toys and equipment frequently and we are taking our learning outside daily.

Year 1 is definitely one of my favourite years to teach in and we are going to have lots of fun and do lots of learning. We are and will continue to spend lots of time outside and playing as part of our learning, especially in the first few weeks. At the moment we are working with the children individually or in small groups to complete a task. Gradually our learning will become more whole class based with all the children working together. Again, we will start with small tasks and build this up over the term/year.

We are starting this term by basing our English on the book *The Pirate Cruncher* by Jonny Duddle. We have made treasure maps and labelled pictures so far. In Maths, we are working with numbers to 20, counting forwards and backwards and finding 1 more and 1 less. Over the last week or two we have been assessing the children on their phonics and aim to start Read Write Inc phonic sessions next week. The children will be bring home a RWI reading book and a RWI Book Bag Book that is matched to their level. We will be collecting in the books each Friday so that they can be quarantined before being issued to other children/classes. **Please keep these books in your child's book bag as we will using them most days.**

Any questions etc. please continue to direct these to Mr Neighbour and he will forward them on to me.

With best wishes,

Mrs Fowler