Dear Parents /Carers of Anning Class,

Welcome to Year One and Anning Class. My name is Jill Collins and I am the Year 1 Class Teacher. I have been working at Brentry Primary School for quite a while and am really looking forward to teaching your child. Miss Millard has been telling me what a wonderful class you are so I am very much looking forward to getting to know you alI .I will be supported by the fabulous Miss Adams, our Year 1 Teaching Assistant and in the afternoons Kelle will be supporting us too.

Although we are an experienced team we will need your support and help this year and are hoping that circumstances won’t be as challenging as the last two years. We will try to keep you informed as much as possible through letters and the Year 1 Class page on the School website but if there is anything you are unsure of please do come and ask and we will try and give you the answer! Also, please do let us know if you have any concerns or problems with your child at school or at home as we will always give support and help if we are informed of these.

There is quite a big jump from Reception to Year 1 and there will eventually be a lot more formal work and less learning through play. We will make it as fun as possible and gradually increase the work so hopefully your child will not notice too much !

By the end of this week we aim to give every child a reading book and reading record book. This will, in most cases, be the same colour band that they left Potter Class on. I cannot stress enough how important it is to listen to your child read at home regularly. Children who read regularly at home make the most progress. In Anning Class, every time a child reads at home ( please record this in their reading record book) they get a busy bee spot and once they have 15 busy bee spots they will get a prize from our prize box. Please can children bring their reading books in **every** day. When a child needs to change their book, pop it in the box just inside the classroom door and we aim to change it by the end of the day.

We will be having a ‘Back to School’ meeting via Zoom next week (Tuesday 14th September – time to be announced) and I will be able to give you more information then but just to let you know our P.E days are Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. We will start P.E next week. Our cloakroom is within the classroom and is very small. There isn’t much room so please can children just bring their book bag daily ( which can go in their drawers), lunch box if having packed lunch ( goes on the trolley) and a draw string PE bag on PE days that they can hang on their peg with their coat. A labelled water bottle is also very useful and can be put by the sink. I am sure many of you have spent money on new uniform during the holidays so please make sure it is all labelled so that it can be returned easily if lost and found.

Our topic this term is history based and we will finding out about two inspirational people from the past… Mary Anning and Amelia Earhart. Dinosaurs and fossils will definitely be making an appearance too !

We are a friendly team and look forward to working with you and your child this year. Please remember to come and talk to us if you have any concerns. Please be aware that it is often difficult to have a long conversation or a confidential discussion as the children are coming into school or going home. If you do need a longer discussion please make an appointment and we can arrange a convenient time for both us.

Best wishes,

Mrs Collins.