



Dear Snow Leopard Parents,

A very warm welcome to all our students and families in Y1 Snow Leopard class!

It is going to be an exciting year, filled with interesting and fun learning opportunities that will encourage your child to blossom, grow and make friends with children from around the world. Please ensure that you regularly visit the DBIS Hub & Parent Portal as important information will be posted here.

The Snow Leopard Team

Hello, my name is Isabella Grella and I am the Snow Leopard Class Teacher and also Head of Year 1. I am originally from Maidenhead, in the UK. At University, I completed a BA Honours Degree in Primary Education at St Mary's University, London enabling me to teach from years 3 - 11. I have previously taught in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This is my second year at DBIS in Year 1 and also my second year of living in Hong Kong. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year of immersing myself within the DBIS community and I am so excited to get to know you all better. I am responsible for the overall learning and pastoral care of our Year 1 children and will communicate with you regularly regarding updates about what is happening in Year 1. I am also available to support you with any questions and enquiries. I can't wait to see you all again!

Hello! My name is Joanne Kynaston. I have been a teaching assistant in Shropshire, U.K since 2014. I Have spent 7 years primarily in Early Years. In the last two years as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant, I was able to further my knowledge covering Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3. Since moving to Hong Kong with my family in March, I have been fortunate to be working as a supply teacher on the EYFS campus. I look forward to getting to know our Snow Leopards family in the year ahead.

Communication

It is extremely important to all the Y1 teachers that we establish a positive home-school partnership. We have exciting plans for the year and we will let you know what they are through the DBIS Parent Hub and classroom communication boards, so please keep checking all the communications regularly. Should you wish to discuss your child's learning or any sensitive issues in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact myself) to arrange a

meeting at a mutually agreed time. If you wish to use email, then please send any communication for the attention of the appropriate teacher through the school office: dbis@dbis.edu.hk

The School Day

Our classroom doors open from **8.25am** each morning. We encourage parents and carers to say goodbye to their child at the door. We expect children to come into the classroom independently, put their belongings away and begin their learning. The school day will finish for Y1 children at **3.10pm**. Y1 families can enter campus via the Y1 side gate, please remember to bring your Parent ID Card with you for pick up time. Any parents and carers without a Parent ID card will be required to sign children out. If your child is unwell, please communicate absences through the DBIS Hub jotform: <https://form.jotform.me/72201104115435>

What your child needs:

- DBIS School Bag (Please keep spare underwear and clothes in case of accidents)
- DBIS School Hat - clearly labelled with your child's name and class
- Named Wellington Boots & Rain Coat for Outdoor Learning
- Water Bottle (Clearly labelled with name).
- 1 named A3 plastic folders for home reader books and Library books
- A small snack e.g apple (in a container they can open independently labelled with your child's name and class)
- Named lunch box (labelled with your child's name and class - *unless your child is eating at the cafeteria*)
- Snack and Lunches must be packed separately.

Healthy Lunches and Snacks

Y1 Snack occurs at 10am during the outdoor break and Lunch at 11:55am. If you would like your child to eat lunch in the cafeteria, please contact dbis@dbis.edu.hk If your child is having a packed lunch, this should be placed in the boxes provided outside each class. To promote health and well-being, we encourage all students to make healthy choices for snacks and lunches. Sweets, candy, fizzy soda pop/soft drinks and chewing gum are not allowed at school. Please also be aware that we are a **Nut Aware** school and we kindly ask that **no products containing nuts or traces of nuts** be brought onto the school premises. **(This includes Nutella and store-bought pesto: pine nuts)** If your child has an allergy that concerns their safety, please speak with your child's class teacher. **In Year 1, we have a child with a severe nut allergy so vigilance is the utmost priority to ensure there are no nuts within the school.**

Outdoor & Experiential Learning Experiences

We value the importance of Outdoor and Experiential learning opportunities at DBIS. In the coming weeks, we will communicate further information about your child's Forest School and Woodwork opportunities. In preparation for this, we kindly ask you to bring rain boots and a raincoat to be kept in school. Y1 students have multiple opportunities to explore outside learning areas, it is helpful to apply sunscreen and insect repellent before school.

Timetable:

Snow Leopard Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
What do I need to wear to school?	School Uniform	PE Kit	School Uniform	PE Kit	School Uniform
What's happening today?	Mandarin Learning Technologies Forest School/Woodwork	Library PE	Mandarin PE	Music Mandarin	Assembly
What do I need to bring today?	<i>Please bring a hat, water bottle, snack, lunch (if packed lunch) to school each day.</i>				
	Wellies & raincoat for Forest School (these can be left at school). Return school home link book, home reader and library book.	New library book and home reader books to go home.			

We are looking forward to getting to know all our Snow Leopard families. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for your support and we look forward to working in partnership with you.

Kind Regards,

Miss Grella & Ms Kynaston