

Year 1 Class Newsletter



Spring Term
2018

Spring Term in Year One.

Hello and welcome back to school. We hope you had a fantastic Christmas break. The aim of this newsletter is to give you some insight to the learning that will be taking place in the Spring term. All children have settled in well to KS1 during the Autumn term and are working hard to achieve their targets.

If at any time you have any questions or you are unsure of anything please ask. If I am unable to see you at the beginning or end of the day please make an appointment to see me at a convenient time.

What does learning look like in Year 1?

During the Autumn term we tried to make the children's transition from Foundation stage to KS1 as smooth as possible. We will now be building upon these transitions and ensuring the children will be ready for year 2 in July. English, maths, phonics and handwriting will continue to be taught daily and the remaining curriculum subjects are taught using a topic approach. We aim to plan interesting topics, which will inspire and motivate the children in their learning. Our first topic for the Term is 'Around the world.' This topic will focus on contrasting continents from around the world.

Maths

We will be continuing to work hard to develop children's confidence in maths. We will also be focusing on:

- Recognising place value in numbers beyond 20
- Counting in multiples of 2's, 5's and 10's forwards and backwards
- Missing number problems – such as $7 = ? - 9$
- Measuring – length, height, mass and speed
- Adding and subtracting

You can support your child's learning in maths by playing number games at home, practicing number formation, adding and subtracting and writing number sentences so the children get used to using the symbols +, - and =. Please ensure children are using 'Mathletics' as often as possible.



English

We will begin the term with a narrative unit of work focussing on Contemporary fiction. The children will build on the skills learnt in the Autumn term – We will be having a particular focus on making sure the children are remembering to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in every sentence.

Important reminders!

- Please make sure your child is wearing the correct uniform and all belongings are clearly named.
- Reading books need to be in school every day and please remember to sign your child's Reading Record.
- Please make sure any money sent into school is in a labeled envelope.
- Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school every day.
- Homework will be sent home on Fridays. Please complete the homework and return it to school by the following Friday.



Our motto is:

Alta Pete – Aim High

"The primary aim of the school is to help each pupil reach his or her full potential so that they may develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to take full advantage of the opportunities available in their future lives."



We will be teaching phonics for 20 minutes daily. The children will be learning new sounds and practising their blending and segmenting skills which will support their reading and writing.

The children will continue to bring home weekly spellings related to what the focus is in their group that week. We have noticed that some children are not practising these at home. Please note this is part of your child's homework and they are expected to learn these words at home ready for the spellings test the following Monday.

Reading is an integral part of our school day. As well as a daily designated class reading time the children will access a wide range of texts throughout the day. They will be given opportunities to read texts during shared teaching, as part of a small group and individually. Your child will read with an adult in school at least once a week. It is important that your child brings their reading book into school every day so that we can maximise additional opportunities for them to read. Please encourage your child to read every day at home and make it a special time together. Remember little and often is the best way to develop a love for reading! Please can you sign the reading record when you have read with your child. You may be aware that we have introduced 'Lego man' to the children – every time they read at home they receive a sticker for their Lego man. Once they get every sticker for his belly they will receive a prize.

Science

Throughout the term our science topics are 'light' and 'seasons.' The children will develop their understanding of the need for light in order to see things. They will learn that darkness is the absence of light and that in the absence of sunlight other light sources are seen more easily. The children will also learn about the four seasons and will be identifying changes which take place throughout the year.

Topic

We will be exploring and comparing different continents from around the world. The children will learn to locate these continents on a map and describe their features. The children will also be learning about toys from the past.

In RE we will be learning why Christians believe Jesus is God's gift to the world and towards the end of the term we will be learning about Easter.

In art and design we will be exploring still life paintings and in design and technology our focus will be structures. In our computing lessons we are learning to use the computer independently and access different programmes to support our learning. In our music lessons the children will be exploring body percussion, instruments and pitch.

PE will continue to take place every Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school every day and is named clearly.

Homework

Homework expectations for year one will consist of:

- Daily reading – please read with your child daily and sign their reading records.
- Weekly spellings – These will be sent home on Tuesdays and the children will be tested on the following Monday. Spellings will consolidate the learning which has taken place during phonic lessons that week.
- Maths – Each child will be expected to use Mathletics for at least 3 x 10 minute sessions per week. Your child's Mathletics log on will be found at the front of their reading record.
- Weekly challenges set through Marvellous Me. Your child can discuss the answers in class with me or they can record them on paper to share with the class.

We are very lucky to have another adult working in year one. Miss Jermain is a student teacher and will be staying with the class for the majority of this term.

As I am sure you are aware, my final day will be Friday 2nd February. Miss Williams will then be taking over. She is able to spend some time with the children before this date to ensure a smooth transition between teachers.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say what a pleasure it has been teaching this class. I have promised them lots of visits so will be looking forward to hearing about their future learning experiences in year one!

Mrs. Williams