

# Year 1

## Autumn Newsletter 2025

Welcome back to Harrison!

**Year 1 PE days are Monday and Wednesday.**

We're so excited to welcome you to our first newsletter of the term. We have a wonderful term of learning planned for your children, which includes daily lessons in **phonics, English, and maths**. These skills will then be used to enhance their learning in subjects like **science, history**, and more.

Throughout the day, children will have the opportunity to work in pairs, small groups, or as a class. We also make the most of our outdoor learning area in all weather, so please send your child with a **named coat** and **appropriate footwear**.

### English- reading and writing



In our English lessons, we will be diving into some truly engaging books that will spark the children's creativity for both fiction and non-fiction writing. We'll continue to work on their phonics skills, focusing on rhyming and identifying sounds within words. We'll also reinforce the rules of writing a good sentence and begin to explore using adjectives to make their writing more descriptive. We will continue to use the Kinetic Letters handwriting scheme to practise the correct formation of letters and numbers throughout the year.

We are currently conducting phonics assessments to ensure that every child receives a book that is the perfect match for their individual ability. We truly appreciate your patience as we complete this important task.

**Books will be coming home with your children very soon, so please look out for these!**

Your support in reading with your child is incredibly important. Even a little bit of reading each day can make a big difference in their fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. When your child's book comes home, please record your reading sessions on their reading card and make sure they bring it to school every day. Once they fill up a reading card, they'll earn a reward! We will be encouraging this in school. **Children who read regularly at home reach the 'expected standard' in year two.**

We will reach out to you personally if we have any concerns about gaps in your child's phonics knowledge. Our goal is to reduce these gaps as much as possible so they can lead to read fluently.

### maths

This term, we will continue to explore numbers to 10 before shortly moving on to numbers within 20 and then 100. We will practise counting forwards and backwards from any given number and begin to compare numbers discussing which quantity is more or less. We'll also start exploring the link between digits and number words, such as seeing the number 8 and the word 'eight'. We will then explore adding and subtracting using a range of resources such as Numicon, counting bears, counters, a tens frame and number lines.

To support your child's learning at home, you can easily incorporate maths into your daily routines, e.g. look for numbers on doors or buses as you walk home from school. Ask your child to count the items in your shopping basket or to help you sort cutlery or clothes. Encourage them to count the stairs as they go up or down. Could they start at different numbers? Could they count backwards from 10? A simple question like, "Who has more peas on their plate?" can be a fun way to reinforce comparing numbers. These activities are a fantastic way to support your child's development.



### Foundation subject curriculum

This half term we will teach your child a range of subjects such as:

**Science-** we will learn about ourselves and find out more about our bodies and their functions. We will see if we can name and label parts of our body such as skull or backbone.

**Computing-** our focus will be learning how to type on a laptop. We will explore where the letters are, how to find a capital and lowercase letter as well as how to use a mouse. Below is a link to a great game we use to help children learn where their fingers are needed to type.

<https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/typing/text-type/>

**Music-** we will use different musical instruments to explore sounds, rhythm and pitch.

**RE-** the children will be given the opportunity to think about their own experience of the concept of thanking someone and what that means to people.

**PE/Games-** we will continue to develop our gross motor skills in our indoor and outdoor sessions.

**History-** our focus will be looking at the changes within living memory in particularly toys and how they have changed.

**PSHE-** we will learn about emotions and how to manage these through our zones of regulation lessons

### Other important information

There will be fruit available for the children to have if they wish, however if you would like to provide them with a healthy snack (e.g. other fruit/ vegetable sticks etc) to have during our break times, you are more than welcome to. **We have several severe nut allergies in the school, so snacks must be nut-free/must not contain nuts. Thank you.**

**Please ensure that your child brings their book bag every day.**



**Thank you for your patience as we establish a new dismissal routine with the children at the end of the day. Your co-operation in lining up against the fence greatly assists staff in ensuring a smooth and safe handover.**

We look forward to closely working with you to enhance your child's learning.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or need support with your child's learning.

Year 1 Team- Miss Gillespie, Mrs Gooding, Mrs Copley, Mrs Quinton and Mrs Bord