

Year 1 Spring Newsletter

January 2026

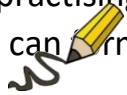
Welcome back, we hope you all had a lovely Christmas break.

Year 1 PE days are Monday and Wednesday.

English

In these sessions, we will continue to look at a range of fiction and non-fiction books as well as poems. This term, we will continue to focus on writing basic sentences using capital letters, finger spaces, ensuring we sound out each word and finally, remembering to punctuate our sentence correctly with a full stop, exclamation mark or question mark.

We will continue to use our Kinetic Letters scheme to support our handwriting practise by revisiting how to successfully form each letter, including knowing where to position these letters on a line. We will be practising this daily as it is crucial all children can form letters accurately.



The children will continue to visit the school library each week to choose a new book that

Maths

This term, we will begin to look at numbers to 20. This will include counting forwards and backwards from any number (within 20), understanding the place value of each number, finding one more and one less and developing our understanding of each digit. We will be continuing to learn all about addition and subtraction, looking at fact families and exploring the greater and less than symbols ($>$ $<$ $=$).

Please use every opportunity to incorporate numbers from 0-20 within your day to day life. For example, practising number bonds within 10 such as asking your child what is $8+2$. Or asking them if I have three apples and need 1 more how many is that? We use

Phonics

We have now learnt our main phase 5 sounds and after some revision, we have begun looking at alternative pronunciations for graphemes already known and alternative spellings for phonemes such as 'a' making an 'ar' sound in father or 'a' making an 'o' sound in swan. We will soon send home the new mnemonics we have learnt to help learn these at home.

Your support in reading with your child is incredibly important. Even a small amount 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 daily. Don't forget to fill up a reading card, they'll earn a reward! We are still encouraging this



Foundation Curriculum

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

Science- our topic is Polar Places particularly looking at animals, their habitat and their diet. We will be exploring vocabulary such as omnivores, herbivores and carnivores.

Geography- our theme will be all around the world. During this time, we will be learning to name and locate the 7 continents and 5 oceans. Exploring google maps would be a great way to help your child with this.

We will also look at similarities and differences through studying human and physical features of areas within the UK and a contrasting non-European country.

Music- learning songs about animals from around the world.

Computing- the children will be learning how to program a Bee-Bot, thinking carefully about the instructions needed, such as left, right, forwards and backwards. We will look at how to debug these when we make a mistake. You could practise the language left and right with your child in preparation for this.

PE- we will continue to develop our gross motor skills during our indoors and outdoors sessions.

RE- the children will be given the opportunity to think about fame and what this means to us and others.

Other important information

It is really important your child arrives promptly each morning. We start learning from 8.55am.

At this stage of the year, we often notice name labels found in the children's items such as cardigans, fleeces, coats, gloves and hats have faded or disappeared. We would appreciate you checking these so we can ensure items are returned to their rightful owners. Thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or need support with your child's learning. We are more than happy to help.

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