



NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019

Year 1



Welcome

Welcome to Year 1! We hope you have had a great summer holiday and that all the children are now raring to go! We look forward to getting to know them individually during the coming weeks and finding out how they enjoy learning. Here is our Autumn term newsletter which provides details of this term's curriculum activities. This term there will be lots of exciting practical learning opportunities to help the children settle and make the transition from Foundation Stage into the National Curriculum. It will also be an important 'getting to know you' time for us all as we begin our Year 1 journey.

Year 1 Staff

Mrs Hurlock will be teaching the children on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Mrs Partridge will be teaching the children on Thursday and Friday.

The other adults supporting the children's learning are:

Mrs Bunn, Mrs Farrow and Mrs Steward

Book Change Days & Homework

Your child's reading diary is a useful communication tool for any non urgent matters. Please take time to check it daily. We do try to check all diaries, but if you have a message for us in a diary, please prompt your child to bring it to us in the morning and put it in the red tray by our desk for messages red diaries tr

Home reading books will be changed once a week on a Tuesday or a Thursday, depending on your child's grouping. Children will receive two books for the week. Books will not be changed unless an adult at home has recorded in the child's diary that the whole book has been completed. A short comment about how your child coped with the book would also be useful.

Children will read in guided reading groups (GR) where the children will share the same book with an adult in a small group. This is in addition to the many other reading opportunities that the children will engage in throughout the school day. Guided reading and daily phonics sessions together, provide children with the tools they need to become confident, independent readers. They learn to use these skills from regular 'little and often' opportunities to practise them. Therefore it is vital that the children read daily at home to build their reading confidence. This can include reading sight vocabulary games as well as their home reading book.

In addition to daily reading the children will have Maths homework set every Friday, to be **returned by the following Thursday**. This is to support learning objectives from the Maths activities in class. Spellings will be set every Friday, linked to our phonics scheme, with a quiz the following **Thursday**. Please make sure spelling books and maths homework are in school on Thursdays to help with this system.

Thank you for your supporting your child's learning at home.

Sports

A reminder that all children are expected to wear the correct sports/PE kit in school. This consists of a plain white T-shirt (plain or with school logo), red shorts and black pumps (please check the size!). PE kits should remain in school every day and will be sent home half termly. An outdoor sports kit (dark blue or black tracksuit, white T-shirt and trainers) will also be required. If your child has pierced ears, please make sure they are removed on **Wednesdays and Thursdays** when we have timetabled PE.

Wellie Wednesdays

The children will have outdoor learning opportunities every Wednesday morning whatever the weather. Please provide wellies and a waterproof coat which can be kept in school. or brought in on Wednesdays. Children are required to wear their school top and jumper, but may wear joggers or leggings on a Wednesday, especially as the weather starts to change.

We have limited space in our class cloakroom. Please do not send in large bag pack type bags as we do not have room to keep them.

This term our topic is 'Once upon a Time...'

ENGLISH: We will be communicating through lists, labels, instructions, retellings and reading stories with repeating patterns. We will also be looking at stories from other cultures. Throughout this term we will be looking at decoding by segmenting and blending in reading, in addition to continuous phonics, handwriting and spelling.

MATHEMATICS: We will begin thinking about, and using, concrete (objects) and pictorial approaches in all areas of maths. These will include counting ordering and comparing numbers in the number system; addition and subtraction thorough big maths investigations, problem solving + and - statements including missing number problems ; recognising 2D and 3D shapes and describing position and movement including whole, half and quarter turns.

SCIENCE: Our topic is 'Animals' which we will link though fairytales and traditional stories. The children will learn about the different groupings of the animal kingdom; birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, etc. They will look at the variety of diets that these animals eat.

GEOGRAPHY: We will be looking at mapping and directional and positional language; creating our own, fairytale, maps and exploring the concept of a bird's eye view.

HISTORY: We will be looking at the language of time and focussing on how kitchens and cooking and laundry practices have changed over time; linking to Goldilocks and The Gingerbread Man.

ART: We will be exploring mark making in drawing and colour mixing in painting a variety of animals. We will investigate how to create different textures on paper.

DT: We will be focussing on the children's technical knowledge - building strong structures of the Little Pigs' houses; exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable. We will also be looking at food hygiene whilst baking some gingerbread people and hoping that they don't run away before we eat them!

ICT: The children will be using Bee-Bots to create a series of instructions and plan a journey for the programmable toy. We will also be recording using sound boxes.

MUSIC: We will explore rhythm and pulse through speech and body percussion focussing on counting syllables and word rhythm patterns. We will also be listening and responding to a range of music.

PE: In our two PE sessions each week, we will be learning tennis skills and core ball skills.

RE: We will be looking at creation stories through the Christian and Jewish faiths and thinking reflectively about our wonderful world.

SMCS: We will be following the 'Taking Care' project to learn how to keep ourselves safe and consider networks for sharing information to keep safe. We will also be looking at ways to look after ourselves, including a healthy diet, teeth brushing and the importance of washing hands.

We are looking forward to a fun packed term with lots of hard work and high expectations. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there are any issues that may arise or you have any questions. If you need to communicate with teachers specifically in the morning, please speak to or pass letters to, the teaching assistant on duty at the school entrance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hurlock & Mrs Partridge

Year 1 Teachers