



Year One Autumn Newsletter 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1. It has been lovely getting to know your children over the last week and we hope they are enjoying their new classrooms. We are currently planning our introductory meeting for parents which will be held in school on Monday 14th September at 5pm. In this meeting, we will go through the teaching approaches, curriculum and routines of Year 1 - it will be lovely if you can make it.

This year, we are continuing to teach phonics through Little Wandle: Letters and Sounds Revised. We started our whole class lessons this week and the children are engaging really well and showing us what they learnt in Reception. From next Friday, the children will bring home a reading book which they have learnt to read in school. These books will then be changed the following Friday. Any reading is welcomed and we suggest reading daily, little and often. As in Reception, the children are encouraged to read as much as they can from a range of books, either their school ones, ones they have at home or online. It doesn't need to be a full book, just a few pages each day will allow your child to become a fluent reader. Please therefore, ensure you comment in your child's reading diary **each time** they read at home as we do read and value your comments.

This half term we have PE with Mr Jacobs focusing on ball skills on **Thursdays**. We also have Forest School with Ruth on **Tuesdays**, so please send the children to school dressed appropriately for outdoor PE on Thursdays and for Forest School on Tuesdays.

It is thirsty work in Year 1 so please make sure your child has a water bottle in school every day – thank you to those who are already doing this.

Our first topic this half term is themed around the book *How to be a Lion*, which the whole school are focussing on. We will then move on to our topic about Earth and Space before learning about Our Bodies and Five Senses, animal groups, Autumn and Toys in the Past in the run up to Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support,
Miss Varley and Mrs Spittlehouse (Class 3)
Miss Pyke and Mrs Charlton (Class 4)

Topic Letter Autumn Term

Subject	
Maths	Place Value within 10 - To count to 20, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or any given number. - To read and write numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and words Addition and Subtraction within 10 - To add and subtract using concrete equipment and a number line - To begin to recall addition and subtraction facts within 10 Geometry – 2D and 3D shape
English	Text level - Fiction - stories with familiar settings - Rhymes - with predictable and repetitive rhymes - Non-fiction - signs, labels, captions, lists and instructions Sentence Level - To understand what a sentence is - To write sentences with capital letters, finger spaces and full stops Word level - To read and spell words with Phase 2 and 3 sounds - To read and spell familiar tricky words from Phase 2 and 3 (explained at introductory meeting)
Science	Animals, including humans - Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. - To be able to classify a variety of mammals, amphibians, reptiles, birds and fish. Seasonal Changes - Observe changes across the four seasons - Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies Uses of Everyday Materials - To describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials (through looking at toys from the past)
RE	Christianity: What do Christians Celebrate? - To learn about the concept of celebration, focusing on birthdays and Harvest. - The Christmas Story
ICT	Learn how to ‘log on’ and use a password to access computers Introduction to modelling - To use the mouse with increasing accuracy Information around us - To recognise that computer programs use sound, text and pictures
Geography	The Earth and Space – use of Google Earth to look at the UK and local area.
History	Toys in the Past - To use pictures to find clues as to what toys were like in the past. - To compare toys from the past with toys today (link to science materials)
Design Technology	- Split pin astronauts - Puppets (Toys topic)
Art	- Colour mixing - Autumn paintings - Creating nature sculptures inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy (Outdoor Learning) - Pattern making using 3D shapes
Music	- To identify the different ways sounds can be made and changed - To sing in unison and to repeat short rhythms
PSHE	- To create classroom rules and discuss what makes a happy classroom - To explore and talk about feelings through <i>The Colour Monster</i> <i>KAPOW My Healthy Self</i>: How can we look after our emotions?
PE	Games To develop basic game-playing skills, in particular ball skills involving throwing and catching.