



Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School
WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026

Welcome to Year 1!

This newsletter will give you an overview of the learning for your child this term. If you have any further questions or would like to discuss anything in more detail, please make an appointment to speak or meet with us.

Let's have a great Autumn Term in Year 1!

Mrs Goldthorpe and Mrs Howarth



Key Information:

PE Days: Wednesday (Indoor) and Thursday (Outdoor) Children should come to school in their PE kit, consisting of; blue PE t-shirt, shorts or joggers, Barkisland hoodie and suitable footwear.

Uniform: Please make sure that all uniform, book bags and water bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name, especially cardigans and jumpers, as these are the most common items to go missing! Please also ensure water bottles have a sports cap to prevent spillages

Staff: Mrs Goldthorpe will work in Year 1 every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Howarth will work in Year 1 every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Bromley will work in class on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. If you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact any of these staff members.



English

In Year 1 we use 'Talk Through Stories' where books are used to deepen children's vocabulary and comprehension, helping them to understand and love the books that they will eventually read independently. Our focus texts for the Autumn Term will be...

The Lion Inside, The Squirrels that Squabbled, On the Way Home, Winnie the Witch, Perfectly Norman and One Snowy Night.

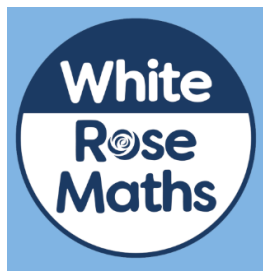
We will have daily lessons linked to Transcription. This is where the children will learn the act of putting words on paper, through handwriting and making those words understandable through correct spelling.

Mathematics

Throughout the Autumn Term we will look at;

- 1) Place Value (within 10)
- 2) Addition and Subtraction (within 10)
- 3) Shape

With this newsletter is a copy of our long term plan and a break down of the learning that we will be covering this Autumn in Maths.



Homework

Talking homework will be set each Wednesday and uploaded to Class Dojo.

There is no expectation for children or parents to return any work to school. The purpose of talking homework is to give you an idea of what your child has been learning in class that week and provide an opportunity to talk about it together at home.

Within the talking homework each week, we will also include the phonics sounds and Common Exception Words (CEWs) or high-frequency words that we have covered in class.

If you require Class Dojo login details, please contact your child's class teacher.



Other Information

Uniform - Please remember to label all of your child's uniform clearly with their name and check that your child comes home with their own clothing. Please can long hair always be tied up and accessories be of school colours.

Snack — Children are able to bring in a healthy snack which they can eat during the morning. Please ensure that this does not contain nuts. There is also fruit available for the children to have for snack.

Daily Mile — We will aim to have 15 minutes exercise each afternoon on the running track.



PSHE

This term, we will be covering two exciting PSHE units:

Making Friends: Playing and Learning Together

Children will explore what it means to be a good friend, including sharing, taking turns, listening to others and working together. We will talk about how to solve small disagreements and how our words and actions can help others to feel happy, included and valued.

Celebrating Me, You and Our Families

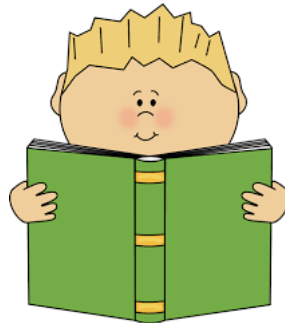
Children will celebrate what makes them unique and special. We will explore similarities and differences between ourselves and others, while recognising that every family is different. Children will have opportunities to talk about the people who are important to them and develop respect and appreciation for different families and cultures.



Monster Phonics and Reading

We will have daily Monster Phonics lessons. Monster Phonics is an enhanced systematic synthetic phonics scheme. It teaches phonics in a comprehensive structured progression but provides additional multi-sensory support to make learning more memorable and engaging. It uses colour coding and monster sound cues to support learning.

We will have week guided reading sessions linked to our Monster phonics learning. Books will be sent home on a **Friday** in a clear book wallet. They should be returned in the clear book wallet on the following **Thursday**. The children will also be able to bring a library book home. They will be able to choose this book independently on a Friday morning.



Science

Autumn 1—Seasonal Changes

The aim of this unit of learning is to help children observe, describe, and understand the changes in the weather and environment across the four seasons.

Autumn 2—Animals, Inc Humans

This unit introduces young children to basic concepts about animals and humans as living beings. The aim is to help them begin identifying, naming, comparing, and understanding the needs of animals and humans.



Religious Education

Our learning in RE will be based on the following two questions...

Autumn 1—What makes some places sacred to believers?

Autumn 2—What is the good news that Jesus brings?



Computing

Autumn 1—ISafe

This unit helps to teach the children how to use technologies safely and respectfully. We will understand the importance of keeping personal information private, identifying where to go for help and support when we have concerns about content or contact.

Autumn 2—IAlgorithm

This unit introduces the concept of algorithms being a set of instructions that can be followed in order to complete a task. Activities are predominantly unplugged to support the children's understanding.



History and Geography

Autumn 1—The World and My School (Geography Focus)

In this unit, children will begin learning about space and scale by looking at their classroom location using a planned perspective of the school. Children will then look at the location of their school on their street, including some of the other key human and physical features of the area. Children will explore the location of their town within the United Kingdom and learn about the UK's four countries and capital cities.

Autumn 2 —Toys (History Focus) This unit looks at the changes in toys over the past 60 years. The children will begin by looking at modern-day toys and they will discuss and make comparisons between the toys they play with in the modern day. Each lesson then looks back a little further in time, with the children looking at the toys they played with when they were babies, the toys their parents had when they were a similar age to them, and concludes with them looking at the toys that their grandparents had when they were younger.

Art /Design Technology



Autumn 1—Drawing—Make Your Mark

During this unit our children will understand how artists choose materials based on their properties in order to achieve certain effects. They will produce artwork of their own drawing different lines by varying control and pressure, e.g. straight, wavy, zig zags, broken, lighter, darker etc. (Line, Pattern)

Autumn 2—Textiles—Puppets

This unit introduces the pupils to the basics of textile design and construction as they create their own custom hand puppets. Children will explore techniques such as cutting, glueing, stapling, and pinning to assemble their designs. They will also learn how to use tools like safety pins and templates to bring their ideas to life.



Physical Education

Wednesday (Indoors)

Autumn 1- yoga- Pupil learns about mindfulness and body awareness. They will begin to learn poses and techniques.

Autumn 2 —Fundamentals— In this unit pupils will explore the fundamental skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and skipping.

Thursday (Outdoors)

Autumn 1 —Ball Skills—Pupils will explore and develop ball skills such as throwing, catching, rolling and dribbling with both hands and feet, They will begin to perform these skills with increasing control and accuracy using co-ordination and balance.

Autumn 2 —Sending and Receiving—Pupils will develop skills in throwing, catching, rolling, kicking, tracking and stopping a ball. They will work with a range of different sized balls.

Music

In Music we follow the Charanga music scheme.

Our first unit is called 'Hey You!'. We will listen to, appraise, learn and perform this old school hip hop style song. We will learn about the differences between pulse, rhythm and pitch.

Our second unit is called 'Christmas'. We will learn some Christmas songs such as Hosanna Rock, Hurrying to Bethlehem, and It's Christmas. We will also be learning and rehearsing our KS1 Nativity performance.

