

Dear Y1 Parents and Carers,

What a brilliant first half term we had in Y1! It seemed to fly by! I hope you all had a wonderful half term break; our Y1 children have certainly come back with a positive learning attitude which is lovely to see. We have an exciting half term ahead and look forward to all the festivities we can enjoy together in the lead up to Christmas.

Below is information which we hope will be helpful to you.

### PE

Our PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday. Tuesday will be led by Miss Molly and will be in the hall learning various ball skills. On Wednesday we will be doing yoga with Mrs Trotter. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school on these days and earrings are removed if they are unable to take them out. Please can we ask that if your child finds it difficult to turn their clothes the right way round (if they are inside out), to do or undo buttons or to put their socks on, that you practise these skills at home with them. We want to enable our Y1 children to develop these life skills and to enable them to get dressed and undressed for PE with increased independence. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### Reading Books

Your child will continue to bring home two reading books; their phonics Read Write Inc one (which is changed every Monday) and a book banded book (which they can change whenever they want to). Just a quick reminder that the most important book is their Read Write Inc phonics book which they should be able to attempt with little adult support. We do however understand that children like to choose their own book, so please feel free to read the book banded book together as a shared reading book. Children should aim to read at home at least 3 times per week and reading raffle tickets will be awarded for reading.

### Spelling books

The children will continue bringing home their spelling book on a Friday. They will have their new spelling list stuck in and these will also be on Spelling Shed. Please support your child in learning their spellings. They will be regularly assessed in their spellings. Their spelling books need to be in school every **Friday**.

### Homework

Every Friday, we will be sending home a short maths task (on classroom secret kids) and a Ruth Miskin Read Write Inc video (on Seesaw). An email has been sent out about this and all logins are stuck inside your child's reading diary.

### Book Bags

Please can children bring their book bag to school every day so that we can change reading books, check reading diaries and ensure any letters etc are put inside.

### Half Term Dates

Here is a quick reminder of some of the key dates which were sent out at the start of the year. It is going to be a very exciting half term!

13.11.23 – Odd Sock Day (linked to anti-bullying. No donation needed).

17.11.23 – Children in Need (children can wear spots or pyjamas)  
23.11.23 – Flu vaccinations  
06.12.23 – Christmas dinner and jumper day  
19.12.23 and 20.12.23 – KS1 nativity performances 6pm  
21.12.23 - Christmas party day (children can wear party clothes, but please be mindful of outdoor play)  
22.12.23 – Christingle 2pm (parents / grandparents are welcome to attend).

You can find The Beeches on Twitter (now known as X) @TheEllisY1. We use X/Twitter to share the learning we are doing at school, celebrate achievements and give information.

## Autumn 2 learning overview

### English

We will start the half term by reading a book called 'Billy and the Beast'. We will be writing questions, statements, recipes, character descriptions and various narratives linked to our story. We will then move onto Christmas writing which will include descriptive settings and poems. During the half term we will continue with our phonics Read Write Inc scheme and will continue to introduce the children to new phonemes as well as giving them chance to practise reading and writing these in words.

### Maths

We will continue learning about addition and subtraction to 10. The children will learn to find number bonds systematically, to find a part by subtraction, to write fact families and to learn how to add and subtract on a number line. We will then move onto our shape unit when we will be learning to recognise, name, describe and sort a number of 2d and 3d shapes as well as exploring different patterns which can be created with these shapes.

### Science

Our Science learning will focus on *Everyday Materials* this half term. We will be learning about materials such as wood, plastic, metal, paper, fabric, rubber and glass. We will be identifying which material is best suited to which job, carrying out an investigation into waterproof materials and developing our scientific vocabulary for describing materials.

### Geography

In Geography, we will be exploring the question '*What is the geography of where I live like?*' We will be looking at where we live in the UK and how this connects to the rest of the world.

### RE

In RE, we will be exploring why Christians believe that Christmas is important. We will also be carrying out our nativity and Christingle service.

### PE

We will be focusing on ball skills including rolling, sending, receiving, stopping and moving in different directions and yoga. Each week we will have a different theme to explore and will think about how yoga benefits both our bodies and our minds.

## Art

In Art, we will be learning to develop our drawing skills including using lines in different ways and exploring the work of artists including Bridget Riley, Zaria Forman, Kandinsky and Renata Bernal.

## Computing

We will be learning how to use the paint programme. We will be learning how to change the colour and size of the tools we use as well as learning to use different brush strokes, the shape tool, add lines, fill shapes with paint and to choose the right tool for the right job!

## Music

We will be learning about tempo this half term. We will be focusing on performing with our speaking and singing voices as well as percussion instruments to show different tempos.

## PSHE

We will be thinking about fire safety and being responsible.

Charlotte Trotter  
Class Teacher / KS1 Leader  
The Ellis C E Primary School