

Dear Y1 Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and happy New Year to you all. Thank you so much from all the Y1 staff for the very generous best wishes, cards and gifts which we received at Christmas. It was very kind of you all. We do hope you had a lovely Christmas with your families and wish you all a very peaceful 2026! Below is information which we hope will be helpful to you.

PE

Our PE days are Tuesday and Friday. Tuesday will be led by Mrs Freeman and will focus on dance and on Friday we will be completing our 'Ball Skills' unit with Mrs Trotter. Please ensure if your child cannot take out their earrings by themselves, they are removed before the start of school. Also, if your child had their ears pierced over the summer holidays, and has been wearing plastic retainers, please ensure these are now removed as per our policy. Thank you for your support in this matter. As the weather can still be a little inconsistent and cold at this time of year, we will continue to do PE indoors this half term. After February half term holiday however, we will have one indoor and one outdoor PE lesson and children will therefore need trainers and are welcome to wear trousers and a jacket. I will send out a reminder before the half term holiday, but just thought I would pop it in here as advanced notice.

Reading Books

Your child will continue to bring home two reading books; their phonics Read Write Inc one (which is changed every Monday) and the '50 recommended read' books (which they are welcome to change on a Thursday if there are ready to). 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 and a Ruth Miskin Read Write Inc video both of which will be on Seesaw. Please ensure these are completed by the following Friday. Not all the maths activities need written answers, some are practising counting, saying sentences etc.

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. Could we also ask that you ensure you have had a clear out of book bags, as they were very full before Christmas and we have limited space to store them in our classroom. Thank you

Classdojo

You can find out what the children have been learning on Classdojo. Please ensure you are logged in as I will use this platform to share the learning we are doing at school, celebrate achievements and give information

We look forwards to another busy half term in Y1. If you have any questions at all, please do pop in and ask any of the Y1 staff and we will be happy to help.

Kind Regards
Year 1 team

Spring 1 learning overview

English

We will be working on different phonic books during our Read Write Inc sessions and will be completing lots of activities around these books. As a whole class, we will be exploring books about toys including 'Lost in the Toy Museum', 'Missing Richmond', 'The Robot and the Bluebird', 'Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon' and 'The Paper Dolls' and a poetry book about toys. We will be completing lots of drama activities, exploring character feelings, retelling stories and reciting phrases.

Maths

We are focusing on numbers to 20. We begin with our '*Place Value to 20*' unit when we will be making numbers using various apparatus, reading and writing numbers, identifying how many tens and ones each number has, ordering and comparing numbers and find missing numbers on a number line. We will then move onto our '*Addition and Subtraction to 20*' unit. This will build on our addition and subtraction unit to 10 but will use larger numbers.

Science

Our Science learning will focus on '*Identifying Animals*' this half term. We will be learning to name, identify and compare mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish and birds. We will then be understanding the difference between herbivores, omnivores and carnivores and will be sorting animals into the correct groups.

History

In History, we will be exploring the question '*How have toys changed?*' We will be discussing our favourite toys using language related to the past. We will then be making comparisons between toys in the past and the present. We will be sequencing artefacts from different periods of time and describing how toys have changed over time.

RE

In RE, we will be exploring the question '*Who is Jewish and how do they live?*' During the unit we will learn about texts from the Torah and their importance for Jewish people today. We will also find out about the mezuzah and the Shema prayer. We will end the unit by finding out about Shabbat and Chanukah, discussing why Jewish people mark these times, what they learn from stories found in the Torah and why they are important today.

PE

We will be focusing on ball skills including throwing and catching, and rolling and dribbling with both hands and feet. We will also be learning to choreograph a dance about toys and then safari animals.

DT

In DT, we will be naming and describing fabrics, learning to thread a needle and make a series of simple stitches. We will then design a piece of bunting and sew a simple image onto it using chosen colours and textures. We will end the unit by saying what we like about our own and other's work and think of what could be made even better.

Computing

We will be learning how to create and change text using Word. We will familiarise ourselves with typing on a keyboard and begin using tools to change the look of our writing. We will then consider the differences between using a computer and writing on paper to create text.

Music

We will be learning about *dynamics* and will be making links between music, sounds and environments and use percussion, vocal and body sounds to represent the seaside.

PSHE

We will be thinking about being responsible (identifying things we can do now which we could not do as a baby), how we can prevent accidents linked to water spillages and computer safety.