

## Year 1 Autumn 1 2026 Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,



Welcome to the start of Year 1, a time of transition for the children from Reception. We would like to reassure you that we are keeping your child's well-being in mind and therefore plan a gradual increase in work time and topic-related play, plus free time for them to choose and pursue a variety of activities that suit their own interests. Year 1 is a very significant and exciting time of change, where children progress at different rates in terms of their learning and social/emotional development. You will probably notice many positive changes in your child as the year progresses.

The mornings will mainly consist of English and Maths lessons that are short in structure and involve many hands-on activities for the first half term. The afternoons will be spent covering the rest of the curriculum, with a focus on practical, creative and play based activities.

| Curriculum covered this half-term |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Optional Suggestions for home learning:                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| English                           | We will focus on the book 'Funny Bones' by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. We will be learning the features of a story book, including characters and setting and focus on the grammatic features; full stops and capital letters. They will continue to build on their phonic skills. We will focus on teaching children how to form letters through letter families, i.e. letters that have a similar movement.                                                              | Talk about characters, setting and the plot of a story.<br>Revise and support learning of new phonics sounds.<br>Encourage correct letter formation and pencil grip at home.           |
| Maths                             | Children will be consolidating and building on their maths knowledge. This will include:<br>Accurate counting, comparing objects and numbers up to 10 using 'greater than' and 'less than' and continuing number sequences.<br>Learning addition and subtractions facts within 10.<br>Finding different methods and strategies to add and subtract within 10.<br>Reading and writing numbers in numerals and words.<br>Work on the quick recall of number bonds to ten. | Practise counting forwards and backwards.<br><br>Support your child to read and write numbers in numerals and words.<br><br>Practise identifying and saying two numbers which make 10. |
| Science                           | The children will be learning about our bodies and how to keep healthy. They will be naming and labelling internal and external body parts. They will also learn about their 5 senses and how they are similar or different to other humans and animals. They will explore how to keep their bodies healthy through exercise and hygiene.                                                                                                                               | Share books about the body.<br>Talk about keeping healthy.<br>Talk about why dental hygiene is important and what this looks like.                                                     |
| Computing                         | The children will develop their understanding of technology and how it can help them in their everyday lives. They will start to become familiar with the different components of a computer by developing their keyboard and mouse skills. Learners will also consider how to use technology responsibly.                                                                                                                                                              | Help your child to log into your computer or tablet using a password. Where appropriate, help them to access TEAMS.                                                                    |
| Geography                         | We will look at and discuss our local area and school environment. The topic will focus on aspects of local physical and human features. They will learn where they live and describe their journey to school. We will physically explore the surrounding local area to identify and build an awareness of the children's neighbourhood. They will make a simple map and use and construct basic symbols in a key.                                                      | Point out features of their local environment. Talk about your route to school. Help your child learn where they live and their address. Explore Google maps.                          |

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| PE               | They will be taught to master basic movements including running and jumping - as well as developing balance, agility and co-ordination - and begin to apply these in a range of situations. Dance sessions will explore seasonal and topic themes through movement and body shapes.                                                                                                            | Visit a park to practise running, jumping and balancing skills.<br>Join in with some dances in <a href="https://www.gonoodle.com">https://www.gonoodle.com</a>                                       |
| Art              | This term we will be exploring drawing through mark making and will be inspired by the work of Albrecht Durer's 'Rhinoceros'. We will be using different shading techniques and experimenting with different drawing tools.                                                                                                                                                                    | Read 'Hairy Maclary' – discuss different types of dogs and their different fur textures.                                                                                                             |
| PSHE             | Our focus this term will be on the children's well-being to help them settle back into school life. We will explore friendships and relationships relevant to the children in their day-to day school life. We will also be developing listening and concentration skills.<br>We will continue using the 'Zones of Regulation' to help the children identify and self-regulate their feelings. | Discuss their friendships.<br>Ask them how they feel about school: what they like and what they find difficult.<br>Discuss positive strategies the children can use to self-regulate their emotions. |
| RE               | We will also explore festivals including Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as part of our learning about Judaism. We will explore the traditions and their meanings.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Music            | The children will learn to use their voice to chant and sing. They will experiment with long and short sounds.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Sing nursery rhymes at home.                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Trips            | A walk to explore the locality around our school.<br>Trip to Cherry Tree woods.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Outdoor Learning | We will be continuing our exciting outdoor learning programme this half term. Our children will have timetabled sessions planned by our Outdoor Learning Practitioner Megan Greene. The Outdoor Learning will be linked with our National Curriculum subjects.                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

Please do not hesitate to email us if you have any questions or concerns relating to your child.  
We look forward to working with you. Let's have an exciting, fun filled Autumn half term!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Coburn, Miss Hughes and Mr Moriarty

The Year 1 Team