



## Year 1 Curriculum Letter - Summer 1 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term we move on to the next exciting phase in our year as we slowly begin to talk about our transition to Year 2. We will begin our learning about plants and plan to grow seeds so we can observe the changes that occur as they grow roots and shoots. As the weather begins to change, we would like to remind you that children need to bring in sun hats and water bottles and will need sun cream applied before they come to school. We would also like to remind you that on PE days (Wednesday and Thursday), it is important to send your children in to school wearing their PE kit.

|                  | Curriculum covered this half-term   | Optional suggestions for home-learning  |
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| <b>English</b>   | <p><b>Text Focus/ Writing:</b> There will be a focus on instructions and information texts related to plants. We will write a recipe for how to make a salad sandwich. We will also be writing an innovation inspired by the book Handa's Surprise.</p> <p><b>Reading:</b> Ongoing home school reading and guided reading in class.</p> <p><b>Phonics:</b> We will review all sounds previously taught with a focus on helping the children to broaden their knowledge of letters and sounds for use in reading and spelling. When spelling words, the children will learn to choose the appropriate letters (graphemes) to represent phonemes (sounds). We will also be practising reading 'alien words'* in preparation for the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check.</p> <p><b>Handwriting:</b> Correct letter formation, starting and finishing in the correct place. This includes capital letters for days of the week.</p> | <p>Encourage your children to recount their day or an activity using the time sequencing words; first, then, next, after that, finally.</p> <p><a href="https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/5">https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/5</a><br/>(This site has some interactive games to play with your child. Please choose games from phases 3 – 5 as appropriate.)</p> <p>*Nonsense words containing familiar graphemes e.g. 'groiks'.</p> <p>Please remind your child about correct pencil grip and letter formation when completing Home Learning activities. Sitting correctly at a table also aids accuracy in handwriting.</p> |
| <b>Maths</b>     | <p>Multiplication and division by making arrays and regrouping objects, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s</p> <p>Fractions: finding <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> and <math>\frac{1}{4}</math> of an image as well as of objects. Time – learning half past and o'clock.</p>  | <p><a href="http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html">http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html</a><br/>A variety of interactive games to consolidate work done in the classroom. (On the website, scroll down to see the different topics)</p>  |
| <b>Science</b>   | <p><b>Growing Plants:</b><br/>We will be learning about common, wild and garden plants as well as the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.<br/>We will be observing the growth of seeds and describing the structure of the plant as it grows.</p>   | <p>Read stories about seeds and growing plants.<br/>Watch YouTube clips of plants growing.<br/>Sow some seeds and watch them grow.<br/>Cut fruits and vegetables open - which have seeds and which do not?</p>  |
| <b>History</b>   | <p>We will research the life of the fossil hunter Mary Anning and learn where her life fits on a timeline of what we have learned in Year 1. We will be learning about her discoveries and their importance. We will discuss how life would have been different in the past, recognising change and discuss how we remember Mary Anning today.</p>  | <p>Visit or look online at the National History Museum. Discuss the fossils Mary Anning found. Talk about how important her discoveries were.</p>   |
| <b>Computing</b> | <p>We will be learning about how to create and manipulate text on computers. We will discuss how to identify and use different keys on a keyboard and how to change the look of their text. We will compare the process of using a computer to create text and writing on paper and reflect on which method we prefer.</p>  | <p>Give your child a chance to look at any keyboards at home and discuss the function of the different keys.</p> <p>Practise using a virtual keyboard to help improve their knowledge of the different keys: <a href="#">Online Virtual Keyboard</a></p>  |
| <b>DT</b>        | <p>This half term we will be investigating healthy, balanced diets and exploring the 5 different flavour profiles using our senses.<br/>We will use our investigation to design and plan a colourful, healthy wrap that we will make and eat in class.</p>  | <p>The Science Museum has a fantastic range of exhibitions to visit around the body and our senses.<br/>You could also discuss the 5 flavour profiles of sweet, salty, sour, bitter and umami – or try foods at home within these.</p>  |
| <b>PE</b>        | <p>Athletics and target games</p>   | <p>Continue to help your child to develop their physical skills including dressing independently. It would be helpful if you could focus on doing up and undoing fastenings (including laces if they have them) and turning 'inside-out' garments the right way round.</p>  |
| <b>RE</b>        | <p>We will be learning about Shabbat. We will discuss how and why Jewish families celebrate Shabbat and its importance to the Jewish faith. Children will also reflect on days that are special to them, and how they mark those days.</p>  | <p>Talk to your child about days that are special to you and why communities celebrate certain days. Share anything you know about Shabbat or other celebrations that may be similar.</p>   |



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|                             |   | BBC Bitesize has resources on Shabbat and Judaism that you could access:<br><br><a href="#">Shabbat - the Jewish day of rest - BBC Teach</a>  |
| <b>PSHE</b>                 | Enquiry Question: How can I be my best?<br>We will look at how we can eat well, discuss the importance of hygiene and hand washing as well as identifying the things we can do now that we were not able to do as babies.   | At mealtimes discuss the different food groups seen, explain how it has been balanced and ensure they have washed their hands.<br>They could also assist with the meal's preparation. |
| <b>Forest School</b>        | Each class will now take part in an entire afternoon (1:30 – 3:00) of forest school, where we will explore the woodland, play in the mud kitchen, build structures and play games. We will also learn about the plants and trees in the area as well as the animals that live there. Finally, we will celebrate our discoveries with a song around the campfire at the end of each session. | Ask your child what they built or explored today. What animals did they see? What games did they play? What did they enjoy most? What are they looking forward to doing again?        |
| <b>Muswell Hill Library</b> | This term we will be visiting Muswell Hill Library to read stories and borrow books to read at school. We hope this will continue to develop our love of reading for pleasure.  | Visit Muswell Hill Library if you don't already do so. It has a lovely selection of children's books to borrow.   |

Your continued support with reading and home learning is always greatly appreciated. We look forward to a happy and fun-filled term with the children.

Please also remember to let us know if you have any concerns you would like to discuss.

With best wishes, The Year 1 Team.