



# Year 1 Autumn Newsletter 2024



## **Dear Year 1 Parents and Carers,**

A very warm welcome back to school, and welcome to Year 1! It has been so lovely to get to know the children better this week. They have all settled in so well!

### **Teaching Timetable**

The Year 1 class teacher in the Mercury classroom is Mrs Braham who will be supported by Mrs Cook. Mrs Cook will be in the class full time. Mrs Peters will be teaching the class on a Thursday afternoon whilst Mrs Braham has her PPA time.

### **Drop off/messages**

In Year 1, we are encouraging children to be independent in many ways. Therefore, children can be sent straight into the classroom from their line outside the classroom as they will have a task to get on with once inside. Morning drop offs can be quite chaotic so there isn't always time to have a chat at the door, if this is the case please feel free to contact the office to arrange a time for phone call.

**Curriculum** Below is an outline of what we hope to cover when everybody is settled; lots of our work will be linked to our history and science topics and learning through play.

**Maths**: Composition of number from 0-5 and 0-10, moving onto introducing wholes and parts. Year 1 will be following a mastery curriculum where they will be exposed to different variations, representations, problems and misconceptions in all topics.

**English**: We will be reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction books to help us understand our learning in other curriculum areas, e.g. books about dinosaurs, animals including humans, castles and emotional health and wellbeing. We will be focusing on listening carefully and answering questions about books with detailed explanations. In writing, we will be looking at segmenting the sounds in our words carefully using our phonic skills. We will be writing labels, captions and looking at what makes a super sentence and practising these in different contexts.

### **Phonics**

Phonics will be taught daily, initially reviewing phase 3 sounds which we may have forgotten, then moving on to new phase 4 and 5 sounds, decoding, blending and learning new tricky words as we go. We will be following the Little Wandle scheme.

**Science**: Why are humans not like tigers? We shall be finding out about all animals - pets, and in the wild. We will be sorting animal facts and learning about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores.

**History and Geography**: We will begin the term with a mini topic researching dinosaurs and what the world was like when dinosaurs existed. Later in the Autumn term we will be learning all about castles: where they are, and why they were built. We will be linking this to our local history and our local environment study.

**Art and D.T.**: We will be practising our drawing skills by looking at different pencil skills and doing some close observation work. We shall also design and build our own castles later in the term.

**R.E./ Jigsaw**: We will be focusing on our Health and Wellbeing, recognising our feelings and emotions followed by our roles and responsibilities in school and the wider environment linking closely to our rights respecting ethos. Our Jigsaw topic is called Being Me In My World. Our RE focus this half term will be exploring the question 'What does it mean to be part of a faith community?'. We will look at aspects of several faiths and what it means to be a part of them.

### **P.E.**

Children will be having dance on a Thursday and they can wear their PE kits for the whole day. Please can we ask that on a Friday they bring their PE kit in (alternate weeks to forest school) as they will need them that day. On the forest school day please send in forest school kits.

### **Woodland:**

Our Woodland slot is every other Friday; however, we love to learn there as much as we can, so please could the children keep their woodland kit in school all week. Please bring a pair of named wellies into school that can remain here until half term.

### **Learning styles**

Children will learn via a mixture of whole class learning, teacher led groups and continuous provision. We will talk more about this in our upcoming open evening.

### **Playtime snacks**

Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack for playtime; however, this is not necessary as school provides a snack - a selection of fruit or vegetables - each morning. From 5 years old, children no longer receive free milk. Therefore, if you wish your child to continue to have milk at snack time, please sign up at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com). Crisps and sweets should not be in school and please note we operate a nut free policy in our school (this includes products that contain Nutella).

### **Home reading / Reading Records**

Children will read with the Class teacher three times per week. Please ensure your child brings their reading record into school Monday-Wednesday so that we can stamp their reading record so you know they have completed their reads. Every Wednesday your child will receive their Little Wandle reading book which they have read in school already. This is to read again at home. We recommend reading this book 3 times at home to aid fluency and progression. These reads should be fluent and expressive and encourage lots of conversations about characters, feelings, themes in the story and your child's own opinions about the book. **Please** can all books be returned in your child's clear reading packet along with their reading records on **Monday** so we can organise books ready to go back home on Wednesday.

### **Homework**

For Autumn term we want to have a big focus on Phonics, so every week your child will bring home their homework folder with a sheet recapping our Little Wandle Phonic learning from that week. Please help your child to complete this and return their folder to school by **Monday**, ready for your next sheet to go home on Wednesday.

We can't wait to get learning with the children. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes,

Mrs Braham 😊