



Year 1 Autumn Newsletter 2025



Dear Year 1 Parents and Carers,

A very whole-hearted 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 and look fabulous in their new uniforms!

Teaching Timetable

The Year 1 class teacher in the Venus classroom is Mrs Robinson. Mrs Peters will be teaching the class on a Thursday afternoon and Wednesday first session whilst Mrs Robinson has her PPA time and mentors another teacher.

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 gate as they will have a task to get on with inside. Morning drop offs can be quite chaotic so there isn't always time to have a chat at the fence, if this is the case please feel free to contact the office to arrange a time.

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 areas of maths.

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 practicing 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: We will be exploring what makes a scientist and the key skills we need to dig deep into our science topics such as: observation skills, questioning and sorting. We will be focusing on Mary Anning and her fossil discoveries.

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 practicing 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 PE mostly on a Friday afternoon. Please ensure children wear a kit that is suitable for indoor and outdoor sessions. Please can children's PE kits remain in school all week so that on a non-woodland week (week 2) we have it available for a second PE session.

Woodland:

Our Woodland slot is every other Friday morning; 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, independent tasks and continuous provision.

Playtime snacks

Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack for playtime; however, this is not necessary as school also 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. 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. If there is a particular area of maths which needs a little extra practice at home this may also be included. Please help your child to complete this and return their folder to school by **Monday**, ready for your next homework 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 Robinson 😊

