



Year 1 Newsletter - Autumn 1, 2026



Welcome back! We hope that you have had a fun-filled summer break and are raring to go for your first half term in Year One! We are so excited to see you all again and kick start your journey through this year with some super exciting learning! Here is a little taster of the kinds of things we will be covering plus some important information...

Literacy → Our book focus will be 'The Gingerbread Man.' The children will learn how to retell the story orally, using actions to reinforce key language features. They will also learn how to follow and create their own story maps as well as engage in lots of other activities based on the story.

Maths → The children will spend this half term revising place value. They will be counting forwards and backwards to 20, finding missing numbers, counting in 2s and discussing more/less than.

History → In History we'll be looking at family history and thinking about why things change. We will be looking at our school in the past and comparing it to present day. We will also be discussing how the children have changed since they were born and what key events have taken place in that time.

Geography → We will be exploring the different types of weather we experience as well as learning about different seasons. Our main focus will then be cold places such as Scotland and Antarctica!

Art → In art, our focus will be drawing and painting. Finally, we'll be creating self-portraits in the style of Picasso!

RE → In RE we will be learning about who Christians think made the world. The children will learn about the creation story and think, talk and ask questions about living in an amazing world!

Computing → This half term, we will be practising using a computer independently as we discuss 'What is a computer?'. We will be learning: logging on and shutting down our computers, keyboard skills, mouse control, opening and closing documents.

Phonics → In Year 1, we continue to follow the Little Wandle scheme to deliver our phonics sessions. The children will receive a reading book over the next week or so that will be directly linked to the phonics phase that they are accessing. Much like in Foundation Stage, the children will bring home phonics homework at the end of each week. Please spend some time practising the sounds/ words that the children have learnt at school. Even 5 minutes a few times a week will really help your child to make progress.

Reading → Children are expected to read with a grown up at least three times a week. The children will be rewarded for reading three or more times. We will be sending home a separate letter with more details about reading in Year 1 over the next week or so.

PE → PE days for the **Tiger Cubs** are Monday (Indoor) and Thursday (Outdoor). PE days for the **Lions** are Monday (Outdoor) and Wednesday (Indoor). On these days please ensure that children come to school **wearing** their PE kit (white t-shirt, black shorts/tracksuit bottoms and a black jumper if appropriate.) It is important that children are wearing safe and appropriate footwear for PE- i.e. trainers. Please also make sure that long hair is tied back and earrings are removed.

Music → By using our voices and instruments, we will start the term with a focus on composing.

P4C → In Philosophy for Children, we will start the term by recapping the ground rules for sharing our thoughts and ideas and focus on how we can be a caring thinker.

Junk Modelling → We always welcome donations of small cardboard boxes/tubes etc for our workshop area. If you have any going spare please send them in to school with your child and you can look forward to seeing them transformed! Please remember that we are a nut free school so we cannot accept boxes that have contained nut products. Many thanks!

Family Photos → We would love it if your child could bring in a family photo to discuss in circle time in the first week back and display in the classroom!

If you ever have any questions or concerns regarding your child or their learning, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us.

Many thanks, The Year 1 Team 😊

Homework: Tasks will be sent out at the beginning of term by email for you to choose as many as you want to complete with your children. If you require a hard copy just ask.



Marvellous Me! Please follow our Marvellous Me accounts to see and hear even more about what we've been learning about in class! This is also a good place to check for school updates and reminders.

