Year 1 Newsletter - Autumn 2, 2026

We hope that you have all had a fun-filled half-term holiday and are ready for a very exciting few weeks ahead! Please see below an overview of planned learning for this half term...

Literacy → In literacy we will start off by learning the story 'Owl Babies.' The children will learn actions to the story to help them retell it and engage with various activities based on the story. We will then move on to performing and writing rhyming poetry based on the poem 'Oh Dear' by Michael Rosen.

Reading→ We are very impressed with the number of children that are reading frequently at home. Children who read frequently at home make better progress with their reading. The expectation is still that children read 3 times a week at home if possible! The children will be rewarded for reading three or more times each week.

Reading books → Just a polite reminder that reading books should be in book bags every day- we listen to the children read whenever we can so it is useful if they have their reading book with them.

Phonics → The children will continue to bring home phonics homework at the end of each week. This is linked to what they have been learning in school. Please spend some time practising the sounds/words that the children have learned. Even 5 minutes a few times a week will help your child progress.

Handwriting→ Along with the usual phonics homework, we will continue sending out some resources to practise handwriting. This will focus on printing letters using the correct letter formation as well as an emphasis on writing letters of a similar size.

Maths→ The children will spend this half term learning about addition and subtraction. They will learn different ways of finding the answer to calculations and have lots of opportunities to practise new methods. We will also start learning about geometry where the children will learn about different shapes.

Science → In science, we will be exploring seasonal changes. We will be looking at weather and temperature changes as well as carrying out an experiment based on seasons and weather.

DT→ In design and technology, the children will be learning about moving pictures and will create their own moving pictures using slider and lever mechanisms.

RE → In RE the children will be learning about the Christian festival of Christmas. We will be discussing the kinds of things that Christians do to celebrate Christmas and the meaning behind it.

Computing→ This half term, we will continue practising using a computer independently. We will learn why we use a computer to write, where to open and save work, how to edit text, and why we need to keep personal information private.

Online Safety→ In online safety our focus will be screen time and understanding that children need to get the correct balance of time spent on and offline.

RSHE→ We will be thinking about 'Friendship' and what makes a good friend as well as 'Physical Health' and what we can do to stay healthy.

P4C → In Philosophy for Children, we will continue to share our thoughts and ideas about 'big questions' and focus on how we can be a collaborative thinker.

PE → This half term, in indoor PE it will be gymnastics and outdoor PE will be invasion skills. PE days will remain the same.

Class teddies → Our class teddies have really enjoyed spending time at home with the winners from each class. Each week the staff in each class will choose somebody who has showcased one of our '5 Rs'- respect, resilient, resourceful, reciprocal and reflective.

Junk Modelling → The children really enjoy making their own models out of small boxes/ plastic bottles etc in the workshop. If you have any junk modelling that could be sent into school they would be much appreciated! Please remember that we are a nut-free school and so cannot accept boxes which contained nut products.

Autumn Treasure → We would love some autumn treasures to add as enhancements to our continuous provision! Any donations of leaves, conkers, pine cones, acorns etc would be gratefully received!

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.

Homework Showcase → We will be inviting parents into school on Thursday 26th November at 2:45pm to share homework and also some learning we have been doing in class.

Many thanks for your continued support, The Year 1 Team 😊