



Year 1 Curriculum News



Welcome

A big welcome to Year 1 families from the Year 1 team! We hope your child will have a happy and fun start to their Autumn term in their new class.

It has been lovely to meet you on the playground at the start of term and our initial parents evening. We believe the partnership between parents, children and school is a high priority to us and we look forward to greeting you if we haven't yet met you. Please feel free to pop and speak to us if you have any questions.

Year 1 Expectations

During the Autumn term we aim to really get to know your children, so we will be talking about things your children like to do at home in their spare time. We are also keen to share their achievements out of school and we will look forward to having some circle time each week to celebrate successes such as certificates in swimming, football or ballet for example or whatever it is your child enjoys doing.

In the Autumn term we like to think that the children are 'in training' to start to settle down and learn how to work on activities for slightly longer periods of time than they did in EYFS, but don't worry, this will be done gradually. As the children learn during their lessons, they will also have opportunities during the school day where they can experience what we call 'Continuous Provision' activities. These activities are designed to develop your child's learning from their first year in school. We will provide lots of learning which the children will find fun and exciting to engage in which have a particular focus in one or more areas of the curriculum.

Your child may come home quite tired and say that Year 1 is harder! However we will be making sure there is a balance between lessons, working time and constructive learning activities. As always we are keen to ensure that they continue to work hard on caring for each other and becoming increasingly responsible for their belongings. We will be encouraging children to respond promptly to instructions and to recognise times when they are expected to listen. We ask for all of your support as we work together to create a kind and fair classroom environment. The new gold shiny house point stickers are proving to be very sought after so we will be looking forward to awarding these to children who demonstrate appropriate behaviour and display resilience with their learning.



Year 1 Curriculum

This term, our curriculum is centred around two mini-themes. We have started the term focusing on 'Ourselves', exploring what is unique about us all and learning about the human body. We have really enjoyed reading Funnybones and learning the a song and dance. Soon we will also learn about Amy Johnson, Hull's flying heroine and be thinking about our own ambitions for the future.



The second half term will be focus around 'festivals', looking at the Hindu festival 'Divali' and the Christian celebrations involving light 'Christingle and Christmas'. We will also explore the reasons for significant events when we learn about the origins of Bonfire Night.



Spellings

Please note that spellings will be tested on Wednesday. We would like to stress that this is an informal spelling check, preparing children for more formal spelling tests throughout their school life. We are trying to teach children to use their phonic knowledge when it applies and recall some more tricky spellings that frequently occur in texts. Reading of words is often stronger than the spelling of them at this stage but the more they practise the more automatic this will become. Spellings to learn will be issued shortly.



A good strategy when a child asks you how to spell something is to ask them what sounds they can hear and what patterns they have learned for these sounds. The good old English language has many anomalies though so learning to spell takes times to master!

PE

A polite reminder that children require both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school. They do require TRAINERS as part of their outdoor PE. Please bring kits to school on a Monday morning and leave in school for the week. Thank you.



Important Date for the Diary

Wednesday 28th September - Numicon Workshop

Please pop along to find out how will we be using Numicon to support and develop children's mathematical understanding of numbers.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Phonics in Year 1

We will be teaching Phonics for 20 minutes each day. Initially the children will have chance to re-cap sounds they have previously learnt and then we will move onto learning new sounds. Phonics is proven to help children with their reading and their spelling so we feel it is a very important part of their learning. You will notice as your child reads that they may start blending two or more letter sounds together to make 1 sound, for example l-igh-t, the word light has 5 letters but 3 sounds. Please encourage your child at home to sound and blend unfamiliar words rather than telling them the word. Many words in their books can be decoded by using phonics. We will be sending home 2 books at a time. We hope that you will support us by listening to your child read regularly at home. We will change books during the week when your child has completed their reading book.



Here's to a happy, fun and exciting term where lots of fantastic learning takes place!

