



Year 1 Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1! We hope you have all managed to have a well deserved rest over the Summer holidays. We are delighted with all the children as they have settled in so well and it has been lovely to see them enter our classrooms with BIG smiles on their faces. We are very much enjoying working with and getting to know the children and supporting them with the next steps of their learning.

STAFFING

Classes this year are led by Mrs Williams and Mrs Ginty with support every day from Mrs Chauhan and Mrs Morris. As much as possible any cover will be provided by Mrs Iddon. Any written correspondence needs to be handed into us by your child as we are unable to check bags every day.

AUTUMN TERM

Most of our work done in class this term will link to our school vision of 'Healthy Hearts'.

Throughout or continuous provision, both inside and outside the classroom, we will be developing our numeracy and literacy skills through a range of activities with links to our core subjects as much as possible.

As scientists we will be learning about seasonal changes and daily weather. We will also be introducing the children to the different parts of a plant and making comparisons and contrasts between wild and common plants.

As historians we will be introducing the children to changes within living memory. We will be thinking about the toys which they play with today and how they differ from toys from the past.

As geographers we will be learning about the 5 oceans and 7 continents of the world and also the different countries and cities within the UK. We will be using a variety of traditional maps and digital maps to support our learning.

As product designers we will be introducing the children to structures and we will be designing and constructing our own windmills.

As artists we will be developing our drawing and painting skills by looking at the formal elements of art including texture and strokes.

MATHEMATICS

We will be covering a wide range of Mathematics this term including lots addition and subtraction facts and place value. The children will use a variety of concrete methods to support their learning including numicon, ten frames, counters and bead strings. We will also be completing weekly arithmetic challenges which will focus on simple additions within 10 and also number bonds to 10.

ENGLISH

In our English lessons, we will be following our new scheme of work 'Read to Write' and we will be focusing on the texts 'Major Glad, Major Dizzy' and 'Rapunzel'. Children will learn how to make predictions based on what they have read, how to structure a sentence and how to write a set of instructions based on 'how to catch a witch'.

PHONICS

We will be teaching phonics daily, following the Essential Letters and Sounds scheme of work, as this is a huge part of Year 1 and is the key to successful reading and writing. We will be recapping the phase 3 sounds, then moving onto phase 5, doing lots of blending and segmenting activities as well as written tasks.



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READING

Reading books will be allocated to children week beginning 26th September 2022. This allows us time to review and recap the children's phonic knowledge and is in-line with the new guidance set out in our phonic scheme of work (Essential Letters and Sounds—ELS). When your child brings their book home, it is important that you hear them read each evening. We encourage the children to re-read the same book at least three times throughout the week to embed their learning and build fluency, word recognition and comprehension.

Reading books will be sent home on Monday 26th September and will be collected in on Fridays and returned with a new reading book on Mondays. eBooks will also be sent out so children will have the opportunity to read over the weekend.

HOME ACTIVITIES

On Fridays Year 1 children will be set homework on the learning platform 'SeeSaw'. Login details for SeeSaw have been sent out to you. If you have not received these, please let us know.

One piece of homework will relate to our English or Maths work. This should be completed and submitted by the following Thursday so that we can discuss it with the children.

We will also set a spelling activity which will relate to the phonics taught that week and sometimes will also contain 'Harder to Read and Spell' words. We will test these spellings on the following Friday. We will issue guidance on 'SeeSaw' explaining how you can help your child learn their spellings and other phonic activities you can do with them.

As SeeSaw is a learning platform for the children and not a communication tool, we kindly ask that all messages are sent to the school office by either telephone or email.

PE KITS

PE for Year 1 will take place on Wednesdays. All children arrive at school in a complete PE kit and trainers are allowed to be worn. Your child should have their hair tied back if it is long and they should come into school without earrings on PE days. If earrings cannot be taken out for any reason can you please make sure they bring tape in to cover them up. If it's raining, they may wish to come in normal shoes/boots and put their PE trainers/pumps in their bag.

SNACKS AND DRINKS

School will provide a piece of fruit each day however children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to eat during morning play (separate from their packed lunch). A reminder that Whitefield is an allergy aware school.

All children need to bring in a plastic bottle containing water to keep in class so that they can drink from it during the day. Please ensure that your child is able to remove the lid themselves to allow us to refill them if needed.

We hope you have found this helpful, if you think there is anything we have missed, please let us know.

Many thanks in advance for your continued support

Mrs Williams and Mrs Ginty