

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 1,

Welcome to Year 1! We're delighted to see how well the children are settling into their new classes after the summer break.

In this newsletter, we'd like to tell you more about your child's learning in the autumn term.

English

We start the school year with two wonderful books: '*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*,' by Michael Rosen and *Nature Trail*, by Benjamin Zephaniah. Children will explore these texts through drama, role-play and discussion. They will practice writing labels, captions and descriptions, progressing to simple sentences. Writing skills will be further developed as children learn to demarcate sentences correctly, using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces between words. These books will also support our learning in RE and science (the Natural World, Animals and Plants).

Maths

Children will start the term comparing two sets of objects and will begin to use mathematical language such as *fewer* and *more* to compare. We will then move onto counting to 20, with a focus on understanding the numeric system to 20. Children will learn that a whole object can be split into two or more parts in many ways and will represent the relationship between numbers, using part-part-whole models. Using their knowledge of numbers, they will begin to solve simple addition and subtraction problems within 10.

MFL

Our school target language is Spanish. Children will learn simple greetings and songs in the language.

Science

This half term, children will learn about Animals including Humans, and Plants. We will start by learning about ourselves – our body and senses. Many of our science activities will be practical; for example, children will use their five senses to explore sights, sounds, smells and textures in the indoor and outdoor environments. In addition, the theme of Seasonal Change runs throughout the year and this half term, we will explore Autumn changes in our immediate surroundings.

Geography

Beginning with ourselves and our location within Brindishe Green/Hither Green, we will focus on the geography of the local area. Children will develop a sense of place and will learn about the physical features of their local environment, as well as aspects of human geography, such as the ways in which the local community uses services in Hither Green. Children will make 'messy maps' of their classroom and use Google Earth to support their understanding of key locations.

Art

Exploring the theme. *Spirals*. Children will discover spiral patterns, using a variety of media, including natural materials in the outdoor environment. They will record their learning in a sketchbook.

PSHME

We will focus on the important issue of friendship. We understand that friendships mean a lot to children and our curriculum for PSHME will help them form positive relationships with peers and adults in school.

RE

Children will learn about the natural world and the Christian creation story.

Computing

Children will identify different forms of technology how they help us. They will learn to name different parts of a computer (screen, mouse, keyboard) and how to use them.

Goldfinch Class: Monday & Friday

Little Owl PE days: Tuesday & Thursday

Swift PE days: Monday & Thursday

This term, children will learn the fundamentals of movement, as well as skills for targeted games.

On PE days, children come to school wearing trainers, leggings/shorts/tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, sweatshirt or hoodie.

Y1 Home Learning

Please prioritise reading with your child every day and write a comment in their Reading Record.

They are welcome to borrow a book from the class library to be shared with you at home (this is not a reading book, but purely to read for pleasure)

Their reading book will be from the Bug Club scheme – online and hard copy.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Phonics workshop for parents/carers.

Thursday 1st October at 9am in the main hall. Come along to find out more about how we teach phonics/reading in Year 1.

Me Books

Every fortnight, we will send two tasks to be completed over the 2 weeks. We will celebrate the children's learning by sharing the completed 'Me Book' tasks in class.

Visits

Visits are an important part of our Year 1 curriculum, and we use them to bring children's classroom learning to life. This half term, we will visit Mountsfield Park to support learning in science, geography and RE. It will be a wonderful opportunity to explore the outdoor environment and observe seasonal changes. Later in the year, we will visit the Unicorn Theatre and the Horniman Museum.

Mountsfield Park: Tuesday 20th October