

## Curriculum Letter for Year 1 - Autumn Term 1 2023

### General Information

A very warm welcome to Year 1! The children have settled in quickly and are becoming familiar with all the new routines and changes around their new part of the school. Thank you to everyone for helping them settle so well; the children have really impressed us with their maturity, enthusiasm and passion for learning.

### Curriculum

**Maths:** We have a key focus on becoming confident with number. The children will be developing their understanding of number recognition and their skills in sequencing, ordering, estimating, and comparing numbers within 10. We will also look at 2D shape.

**English:** We have started our English lessons with the beautiful book *In Our Hands*, seeing how words and pictures come together to tell a story. We will then move on to *The Naughty Bus* creating non-fiction reports and creating our own adventure stories and finish the half-term with *The Everywhere Bear* by Julia Donaldson, where we explore adjectives, postcards and invitations to a very special event!

**Science:** Our first topic is 'Who am I?' looking at the wonders of the human body, inside and out! We will also think about our five senses and how they help us explore the world around us.

**Geography:** This half term our unit is 'Our Local Area.' The children will develop their locational knowledge based on the view from the school and local walks. They will also be using maps and developing their vocabulary to define where they live.

**Art:** In our Art topic we are exploring line with a focus on *Bridget Riley* and *Kandinsky*. We will work together to create an underwater collaborative piece using all the skills we have developed.

**Music:** Music in Year 1 starts with 'Rhythm in the Way We Walk'. We use the online platform Charanga to help explore tempo, rhythm, and different styles of music from around the world. We even learn how to rap!

**RE:** In the Autumn term the children look at *The Creation Story* from the book of Genesis. They will recall the events and talk about how to care for the world God created.

**PSHE:** Our first PSHE topic looks at 'Health and Wellbeing'. We will be exploring personal qualities, how to manage our feelings and the impact of sleep and relaxation on wellbeing.

**Class Reads:** Our end of the day read for start of the year is the series of 'Rabbit and Bear' by Julian Gough.

### PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for **Wednesdays** with Coach Romaine. All children must wear their PE kits to school. We also have indoor PE on **Mondays**. Indoor PE kits stay in school.

### Reading

We are very excited for children to continue with our phonics and reading program, *Little Wandle*. We have daily phonics sessions to extend prior learning and introduce new sounds. After revising the phase 3 & 4 sounds, we begin phase 5 sounds just before half term. Developing phonic knowledge will be practiced in both spelling and reading activities in school. All children will read with an adult in school regularly.

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**Reading aloud is so very important at home** and we will continue to send home books appropriate for your children. Reading practice books will continue to be set as e-books. In addition, they will bring home a book to share with an adult to support reading for pleasure. We would appreciate reading records being completed weekly with a short comment to let us know how your child has found their reading practice book that week.

Books will be sent home on a Friday and should be returned by the following Thursday. Please ensure the books are returned on the correct day, as this will increase our selection of available books for the children to choose from.

### Homework

Homework will be set every Friday on *Microsoft Teams* and is due in the following Thursday. Children may also be set homework on MyMaths or Purple Mash – this will be indicated on the work set on *Teams*.

Our Knowledge Organisers are available in Teams under 'Files' so please use this to help support your child's learning in school at home, too. They are a great way to start conversations about what we are doing at school each week.

### Key Dates and events

Library Visit	T.B.C.
Aldersbrook Park Geography walk	T.B.C
Half term	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
INSET day	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October. School closed