



Curriculum Letter Year 1 – Spring Term 2 2024

General Information

A very warm welcome back to school! The children have come back raring to go with their new Spring learning, which is fantastic to see.

Curriculum

Maths: We start our learning by re-visiting addition and subtraction within 20 before moving on to look at fractions of shapes and amounts. We finish with measurement, investigating length and weight.

English: Our texts this half term link to our Science and History topics. We begin with explorations of *The Deep Dark Wood* to create setting descriptions, then move on to look at features of a particular Traditional Tale that uses this setting to great effect!

We then move on to places further afield, with the beautiful *Astro Girl* by Ken Wilson-Max, using it as a stimulus for instruction and non-fiction writing, before finishing off with the great *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett.

Science: Our topic this half-term is 'Plants and Animals' looking close to home and working scientifically to identify a range of trees in our local area. At the end of term, we will have some very special visitors to the classroom to help us learn more about life cycles and classifying animals!

History: This half term our topic is '*The Greatest Explorers*'. We start by looking at the characteristics and qualities of explorers before taking a closer look into the lives of significant people from a range of backgrounds and periods throughout history.

Design & Technology: We will be learning about different fruits and vegetables, choosing our favourites and developing our cutting skills before making smoothies.

Music: We will be developing our listening and appraising skills, finding the rhythm and pulse, with our focus song called 'Round and Round'.

RE: We are learning the importance of the Easter story for Christians, thinking about the events that lead to the crucifixion of Christ and His Resurrection. We will finish this with a local walk to Holtwhites Bakery, to buy a hot cross bun.

PSHE: Our '*Safety and the Changing body*' unit will help us; understand what adults can help us in different situations in and out of school, understand ways to keep safe and what to do if we get lost and about potential hazards around the home.

Phonics: The children will continue to receive daily phonics sessions with a focus on the phase 5 sounds and applying them in both reading and spelling. We will also start to prepare the children for the Phonic Screening in June, by looking at 'alien' words.

Class Reads: In 1B, due to over-running with *The Christmas Pig* last half term (as we were so engrossed in the story!) we will be starting *Too Small Tola Makes it Count* this half term. In 1W we will be reading *The Animals of Farthing Wood* by Colin Dann.



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PE Days

Outdoor PE sessions continue on **Wednesday** with our ELMs sport coaches. Our indoor PE sessions are **continue on a Friday afternoon** with a focus on gymnastic skills and developing balance. Kits for indoor PE should remain in school and will be sent home every term for washing.

Reading and Spellings

Children will continue with their reading groups, reading with an adult in school at least twice a week. The groupings have recently been assessed, to ensure your child is reading a book best matched to their current level of confidence and fluency.

Reading aloud is so very important at home! We will continue to set Collins eBook copies of the books read at school, so children can show off their skills to you at home. **If you feel that a book is too challenging, please let us know using the reading diaries.** Any feedback you give is checked regularly by the class teacher and much appreciated.

Sharing books will continue to be sent home on a Friday and should be returned by the following Wednesday. As children become more confident in their own reading skills, they may well start trying to read these themselves. This is fantastic, but the primary purpose of these books is to help foster a love of reading for pleasure and therefore sharing these books with your children in the role of a confident reader is so important 😊.

Please ensure the books are returned on the correct day as this will allow us sufficient time to change them and increase our selection of available books for the children to choose from.

Homework

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

Key Dates

World Book Day (dress up):	Thursday 7 th March
PTA Wonka Bar sale after school:	Thursday 7 th March
Online Parent meetings:	19 th and 21 st March. More details to follow.
Holwhite's Bakery Walk:	Tuesday 26 th March
Chicks in class:	Monday 18 th March – Thursday 28 th March
End of term:	Thursday 28 th March – term ends at 2pm
Easter Holidays:	Friday 29 th March – Friday 12 th April