



Curriculum Letter for Year 1 - Autumn Term 1 2026

General Information

A very warm welcome to Year 1! The children have settled in quickly and are becoming familiar with all the 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 readiness for starting Year 1.

Curriculum

Maths: We have a key focus on becoming confident with number. The children will be developing their understanding of number recognition and use their skills in sequencing, ordering, estimating, and comparing numbers within 10 before moving on to addition and subtraction within 20. We will also look at 3-d and 2-d shape.

English: We have started our English lessons with a focus on consolidating our phonics knowledge with sentence writing and spellings. We will move on to *The Naughty Bus*, writing non-fiction reports and creating our own adventure stories. We 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 *Seasonal Changes*. We will be looking at the order of the seasons, the months in those seasons, activities and events in each season and weather changes across the year.

Geography: This half term our unit is '*What is it like here?*'. The children will develop their locational knowledge based on the aerial view from the school and classroom. They will 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 '*My Healthy Self*'. We will be exploring our feelings, how to manage them and what to do if we need help.

Class Reads: Our end of the day read for 1B is *Toto The Ninja Cat* by Dermot O'Leary and 1W will read *Fantastic Mr. Fox* by Roald Dahl.

PE Days

Outdoor PE is timetabled for **Tuesdays** with Coach Kymani. All children must wear their PE kits to school. We also have indoor PE on **Fridays**. Indoor PE kits stay in school for a term and are then sent home for a good wash!



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Reading

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

Reading aloud is so very important at home, and we will continue to send home books appropriate for your children. Reading practice books will be set as before, as e-books in the Collins Hub. In addition, all children will bring home a book to share with an adult to support reading for pleasure.

Books will be sent home on a **Friday** and should be returned by the following **Wednesday**. 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

A recap of our week's learning will be set every Friday on *Microsoft Teams*. Homework may also be set here 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 will be emailed out and are also available in Teams under 'Files', so please use these to help support your child's learning at home, too. They are a great way to start conversations about what we are doing at school across the half term.

Key Dates

PTA Bake Sale	Friday 18 th September
PTA Smarties Challenge starts	Monday 21 st September
PTA Discos	Friday 16 th October
Visit to St Andrew's Church	Thursday 8 th October
Library Visit	TBC
INSET Days	Wednesday 21 st - Friday 23 rd October
Half Term	Monday 26 th October - Friday 30 th October