



Newsletter

Autumn Term



Welcome to the start of your Year 1 adventure!

We can't wait to begin a brand-new school year with our superstar Year 1s! Mrs Nicholson and I loved meeting you all during the summer, and we are so excited to be your teachers this year.

This term will be full of fun, exciting learning and lots of new experiences. Our main priority is to make the transition from Reception into Key Stage 1 as smooth and happy as possible. To support this, we will use a mixture of continuous provision, where children can explore, play and practise new skills, alongside a gradually more structured approach to learning.

We are always here to help, so if you have any questions or worries, please don't hesitate to speak to us. You will find either myself or Mrs Nicholson at the Year 1 door each morning.

Below, you'll find a little preview of what we will be learning this term, along with some useful information to help your child get off to a great start in Year 1.

I am a historian: The 1960s

This term, we are **travelling back in time to the 1960s!** We will be exploring what childhood was like during this time and thinking about how life has changed since then. The children will look at toys, clothes and homes from the past and consider what made children happy in the 1960s and whether those things are similar to what makes children happy today.

As part of our History learning, we will:

- Learn what a timeline is and begin to place events in order.
- Compare toys from the past with toys we use today.
- Look closely at photographs and other clues from the past.
- Talk about how childhood has changed over time.
- Invite families to share any photographs or memories from the 1960s. We would love to see them!

I am a scientist: Materials

In Science, our focus will be on materials. The children will:

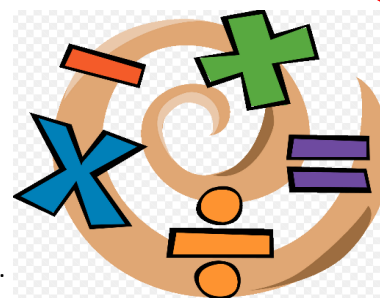
- Investigate what different toys and everyday objects are made from.
- Explore the properties of materials, such as whether they are hard, soft, bendy, waterproof or absorbent.
- Sort and group materials according to their properties.

Carry out a practical investigation to answer the question: **Which material is best for building the Three Little Pigs' house?**

Maths

This term, we will be building strong foundations in number. We will:

- Count forwards and backwards and recognise numbers to 10, before extending our learning to 20.
- Represent numbers in different ways using objects, pictures and numerals.
- Practise recognising small amounts without needing to count each object.
- Compare groups and numbers using language such as more, fewer, greater and less.
- Order numbers and find one more and one less.
- Explore how numbers can be made from different parts. For example, 5 can be made from 4 and 1, or 3 and 2.
- Begin to use our understanding of number to solve simple problems and explain our thinking.



Our special maths target this term is to become really confident with the number bonds within 5.

$$5 + 0 = 5 \quad 4 + 1 = 5 \quad 3 + 2 = 5 \quad 2 + 3 = 5 \quad 1 + 4 = 5 \quad 0 + 5 = 5$$

Phonics

We follow the Rocket Phonics programme, which helps children learn to read and write through a systematic, structured approach. Lessons take place five times a week and include lots of active, engaging opportunities to practise reading and spelling.

Children will revisit familiar graphemes and then move on to new ones, exploring the different ways sounds can be represented. For example, the /igh/ sound can be written in several ways: igh, ie, i, i-e.



The Tiger Who Came to Tea



English

Our key text this term is the much-loved story *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* by Judith Kerr.

We will begin by enjoying and exploring the story together, before learning how to retell and create our own writing. We will be learning how to:

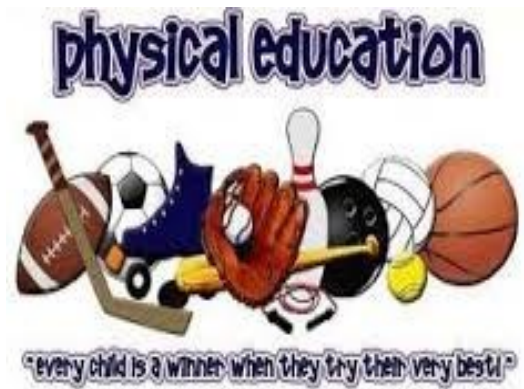
- Say a sentence aloud and keep it in our heads before writing it.
- Write clear sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.
- Use a capital letter for I.
- Choose nouns and descriptive words carefully to add detail to our writing.
- Retell events in the correct order and use the story to inspire our own ideas.
- Plan, write and improve our work before sharing our finished writing.

Reading Diaries

Please make sure reading diaries are in school every day. We will change reading books weekly. If the children read 4 times at home, they have the chance to bring a reading bear home.

PE

Our PE days this term are Monday and Tuesday.
PE kits should be suitable for indoor and outdoor lessons.



Home Time

Please let Mrs. Thomas/Mrs Nicholson know who will be picking the children up at the end of the day, if it is someone different from usual.

Class DOJO

We will post any updates or messages on DOJO. We will put a round up of children's learning on a Friday each week.



During playtime, children can bring a healthy snack from home to eat as their snack. This could be a piece of fruit, a cereal bar, carrot/pepper/cucumber sticks etc. or they can bring money for the tuck shop.

Children should also bring a clearly named water bottle that is a school water bottle (like the one pictured above.) This should just contain water or flavoured water.

Dates For Your Diary

PE:

Every Monday and Tuesday

Half Term:

Last day- Thursday 15th October

Inset day– Friday 16th October

Back to school on Monday 2nd
November 2026



Year 1 Teaching Team

Mrs Thomas– Teacher

Mrs Nicholson - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Kimberley– Teaching Assistant

Miss Mozley– Teacher on Thursdays