

Welcome to Year 1



Mrs Ashford – Class Teacher
Mrs Earl – Teaching Assistant

Welcome to Year 1. It is a bit different to the Reception Year at school; there is a lot to fit into the year and the teaching is starting to become more formal. As with all schools, we aim to make the transition as easy as possible for your child with the start of year including some play-based activities alongside more formal learning. Our first topic is called 'It's great to be me' In this topic we will be learning all about ourselves and our local environment. In our topic called 'Fire, Fire!' we will look at our Capital City of London and discuss The Great Fire of London. Then we will cover our topic called 'Dare to be different.' In this topic we will be learning about the impact that key people had on our lives. We will then learn about heroes from the past including Florence Nightingale in our topic 'Nurturing Nurses.' In the Summer term we will be 'Going Wild' and learning all about plants and a different continent.

Please see the separate topic plans and knowledge organisers for more details of what the children will be learning.

What to expect in Year 1

Arriving at school and the morning routine.

In Year 1 we encourage the children to develop independent skills by and looking after their belongings.

The children will be greeted at the classroom door and they will be expected to hang up their coat on their allocated peg. Take their reading folder out of their book bag, put it away in a labelled box and then hang their book bag on their peg. Their water bottle needs to go in the water bottle tray. Next, they will sit at their table ready to complete the 'Early morning challenge'.

It is important that the children arrive on time to register and that they don't miss the *Early Work* that has been set for them to do.

Mrs Ashford or Mrs Earl will be standing at the classroom door from 8.40am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on do so then alternatively you can catch her at the end of the day. If you wish to discuss something in greater depth please make an appointment at the school office.

Lunches

It is really important that the children know what they are having for lunch each day; packed lunch or a hot school dinner Please discuss this with your child and pre-order online.

Uniform and other items

Please ensure all uniform (including, coats and shoes) plus water bottles and book bags, is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Please check that your child has all the required PE kit – light blue T-shirt with school logo, black shorts, plain black hooded sweatshirt, plain black track suit trousers for cold weather, trainers and a pair of socks. We will be going outside in cooler weather so it is important your child has warm P.E. clothes as well as shorts.

P.E bags will be left in school and will be sent home each half term unless we have got particularly muddy or soaking wet during a lesson.



Phonics

The children have a daily phonics session in which they are introduced to new sounds and practise sounds previously learned. To teach phonics, we follow the Read Write Inc. programme. At the end of Year 1 all children enter the National Phonics Screening test.

Reading

In Year 1, the children will bring home a Read Write Inc. pack that can be kept safely in their bookbag. Each child will have RWI reading books and resources that are matched to their reading ability. For children who are reading the coloured storybooks, the expectation is that children will have a core storybook that they will have already practised reading in the lesson, this should be reread throughout the week to develop fluency and expression. They will also have a 'Book Bag Book' that will be linked to the core story, this should also be read several times. Please help your child to read and give lots of praise! Remember you can share the enjoyment of reading with your child using a variety of picture and story books at home and we just ask that you record this in their reading diary and write a short comment.

How you can support your child's reading at home

Please hear your child read as often as possible. The children will have key words stuck in their reading packs (where appropriate) so please practise reading these as often as possible too. Read a variety of stories as well as non-fiction texts to your child.

Sometimes your child might bring home a picture book that they know well. Please don't say, 'This is too easy.' Instead, encourage your child to tell you the story out loud; ask them questions about things that happen or what they think about some of the characters in the story.

Guided Reading

The children will take part in guided reading every day during their phonics session. This is a chance for them to read to an adult or take part in some independent reading activities.

Library

The children can choose a book from the library to take home. This is an opportunity for the children to enjoy the library and choose a book out of interest. Please share these books with your children. Our library day will be decided in September.

Writing

The children will continue to practise correct letter formation and sentence structure. Writing in Year 1 takes place daily and involves writing in a variety of genres.

Spelling

In Year 1 the children will be given a list of common exception words that all Year 1 children are expected to be able to spell by the end of the year. The children also have access to this list on their tables to support spelling during lessons. Please help them to read and spell them as part of their weekly homework task.

Maths

We aim to make maths as fun and as practical as possible. The National Curriculum is challenging so we appreciate your support in reinforcing and practising concepts at home.

Areas you can practise at home are:

- Telling the time (by the end of Year 1 the children are expected to know o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past).
- Recognising coin values and adding small amounts together.
- Naming and describing 2d and 3d shapes.
- Counting objects – count toy cars, soft toys, number of Lego bricks used in a tower etc.
- Counting up to 100
- Writing numbers to 20 in words and figures.
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s – this can be practised when counting money.
- Measure height. Use scales to weigh cooking ingredients.



Please remember to be positive at all times. Make it into a game if possible. Don't pursue any area where your child is clearly uncomfortable.

Homework

English / maths

An English/maths task based on work we are completing in class.

Reading

Please read regularly with your child – 10 minutes every school night is ideal.

Spelling

Practise Year 1 common exception words

What does an average day in Year 1 look like?

The mornings usually follow the same timetable of phonics, maths and English activities.

The afternoon sessions vary from day to day and half term to half term. We take on a half termly topic so our science, history or geography, design technology, art and music usually relate to the topic. Other subject areas including computing, R.E, Personal Social, Health, Emotional and Citizenship education (PSHE&C) and P.E. are taught every week as discrete subjects.

All sessions include focused, adult-led tasks and independent tasks. There may be opportunities for role play, free writing, sand or water play and small world and construction activities.

Here is an example of a day in Year 1:

8.40am – Classroom doors open. Registration and Early Morning work.

9.00am – Collective Worship

9.15am – Maths

10.30am – Playtime

10.45am - English

11.45am – Phonics

12.15 – 1.15pm - Lunchtime

1.15pm – Register

Topic lesson (which might be science, history, geography, art or DT based).

2.15-2.30pm **Playtime**

2.30pm – Music

3.00pm - Story

3.15pm – Hometime



We will have P.E. twice a week. We will confirm these days with you at the start of the academic year.

I hope this information is useful. Please ask if you are unsure of anything.

Sounds we will be learning in phonics sessions

ai	wait	ph	phone
ay	stay	ar	car
a-e	cake	oy	boy
ea	break	oi	soil
ee	sheep	er	river
ea	beach	ur	nurse
y	silly	ir	first
igh	night	aw	claw
ie	lie	or	for
i-e	five	au	August
ow	blow	ll	well
oa	goat	ff	puff
o-e	bone	zz	buzz
oo	room	th	thank
ew	chew	sh	fish
ue	true	ch	church
u-e	June	air	hair
ow	clown	ear	bear
ou	sound	are	dare

Year 1 common exception words

The children are expected to be able to spell these by the end of the year.

a	has	of
are	he	once
ask	here	one
be	his	our
by	house	pull
come	I	push
full	is	put
friend	love	said
do	me	says
go	my	school
where	no	she
were	to	so
you	today	some
your	was	the
they	we	there