



'Let your light shine'

Matthew 5.16

Class 1 (Autumn 1) Curriculum Newsletter

Physical Development

Please send your child into school wearing their PE kits on Tuesdays and Fridays. Please can children also leave a pair of wellies at school for the outdoor mud kitchen area.

In PE, the children will explore the fundamental skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping, and skipping. They will be taught how to move and travel around the hall safely, about the importance of exercise, and how their bodies change when exercising. We will also explore similar concepts in our outdoor area through play. Reception children will develop their fine motor skills through mark making, using tweezers and threading, as well as using tools such as scissors safely, using the correct grip.

Year 1 will continue to develop their handwriting skills and will continue to develop their scissor cutting skills.



Expressive Art and Design, and Music

This half term we are creating self-portraits. We will develop skills inline drawing and will explore shape, proportion, exploring Cityscapes and Skyscapes. The children will draw buildings using different lines and shapes. They will learn how to make some objects taller or smaller to show space and distance. They will then design a printed block and print using it. The children will learn to apply pressure on the painting block evenly will distribute paint. Also, by placing the print next to the previous one will create a repeated print.

In music the children will be exploring pulse and rhythm, and they will sing and perform songs with actions for the Harvest festival.

Literacy

Reception this half term we will be focussing on developing and applying their phonic knowledge using the RWI phonics scheme. We will be learning the individual letter sounds and will begin to put these together to read and write simple words. In writing Reception will start by listening for and writing the initial sound in a word to write labels and lists.

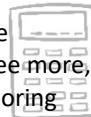
Year 1 will continue to develop their RWI phonics by learning set 3 sounds and new red words. Our writing focus will be embedding our understanding of what a sentence is, developing presentation and consistency in punctuation. The children will be writing for a variety of purposes and will explore new vocabulary that will help to create interesting pieces of writing.



Mathematics

Reception will start the year by matching objects and pictures, sorting objects, and pictures in a variety of ways, and comparing objects using appropriate vocabulary. We will also begin to explore numbers up to 5; recognising, counting, and representing them in a variety of ways. We will

find one more and one less and start to look at the composition of the numbers (e.g. 4 is one and three more, or 2 and 2 more etc). Year 1 start the term by exploring place value within 10. this unit involves securing counting skills, exploring the number line, and recognising numbers as words. The children will also solve mathematical problems involving more than, less than and equal to. We will then move onto exploring addition and subtraction within 10, solidifying our understanding of accurate mathematical vocabulary, and using practical strategies to solve problems.



Understanding the World

RE

In our unit 'Who is Jewish and what do they believe,' we will be thinking about the special things found in a Jewish home and how these objects link to the Jewish way of life. In particular we will be focusing on 'Shabbat' the weekly Jewish day of rest and the festival of Chanukah.

Science:

Year 1 will be learning all about the basic needs that animals, including humans, have for survival. They will also be exploring the idea that animals, including humans, have offspring that turn into adults, identifying which babies belong to which adult animal, and how different animals (e.g. tadpoles, chicks, human babies) have different stages in their lives. Reception will focus on themselves, identifying parts of their bodies, exploring the history of themselves, and exploring the world using their senses. Both year groups will explore

Geography

This half term we will be exploring 'continents and deserts'. We will learn that Earth has 7 continents and we will use maps and atlases to locate them. We will also discover that some continents contain deserts. We will learn about the features of deserts and the plants and animals that live there and we will compare them to where we live.

seasonal changes that we see throughout the term.

Communication and Language (Reception)

This first term we will be focussing on how to speak to others and how to listen to others talk for short periods of time. We will make friendships, developing social conversation and looking at talk routines through the day such as a morning greeting, choosing etc.

We will also develop a deeper understanding of rhyme and alliteration through songs, stories, and poetry.

The children will be developing their listening skills listening to a variety of stories and will begin to discuss these stories, developing their vocabulary and comprehension skills.



PSED and PSHCE

Reception children will focus on developing and building new

relationships with staff and children and settling into the rules and routines of school. We will be developing our independence in putting coats and wellies on as well as removing and putting on jumpers and cardigans.

Year 1 will be learning about how to keep safe and manage risks. Alongside this they will look at internet safety as well as exploring emotions in their focussed PSHCE sessions.

Important things to remember:

Reading books Year 1 – Reading diaries need to be commented in regularly for books to be changed weekly on a Thursday. Please read a minimum of 3 times weekly with comments in reading diary.

PE days – come to school wearing PE kit on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Library books: Returned weekly on Fridays.

Reception children: please return the who can collect me forms to class teachers

Class 1

Ways to help your child at home

We welcome and encourage children to continue their learning beyond school and share their achievements with us. We have consciously decided not to publish or set homework sheets; however, we would like all children to complete these key weekly tasks and activities.



Phonics

Phonics underpins all of their learning in reading and writing and it is vital that children practise regularly. We will be sending home a copy of the sounds that they are learning and a card with some ideas of activities and games you can play with them to help develop their phonic knowledge and skills.



Daily Reading

Developing a love of reading and learning to read are directly linked to children's success at school and beyond. Reading daily to your child is the single most important thing you can do to help them with their learning. At this stage the children will not have their own books to read, but this love of reading can be fostered just by an adult sharing regular stories at home.



1 Minute Maths

This is a fantastic app, (particularly suited to Year R-3) which helps children to build number confidence and fluency through 1-minute tasks. The app gives instant feedback, with a 'hints' button which rephrases the question if children need a little extra support.

KIRFs

Key Instant Recall Facts

KIRF practise will help your child to learn by heart, key facts and information which they need to have instant recall of. KIRFs are designed to support the development of mental maths skills that underpin much of the maths work in our school. Your child's KIRFs for this half term can be found below.

Key Instant Recall Facts – Reception, Autumn 1

I can say the numbers from 0 to 5 and back from 5 to 0 in order

By the end of this half term, children should know the following facts. The aim is for them to recall these

facts instantly.

To recall and recognise in order:

0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

And back again:

5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0

Top Tips

The secret to success is practising little and often. Use time wisely. Can you practise these KIRFs while

walking to school or during a car journey? You do not need to practise them all at once; perhaps you could

have a fact of the day. If you would like more ideas, please speak to your child's teacher.

Use practical resources -

- Spot numbers in the environment around them: on phones, clocks, microwaves, registration plates, doors etc
- Count out 5 toys and count back as you put them away.
- Make biscuits and decorate them counting out 5 decorations.
- Sing counting songs
- Model making mistakes and seeing if they can spot them, or starting counting and seeing if they can continue.

Year 1 KIRFs Autumn 1

Key Instant Recall Facts – Year 1, Autumn 1

I can find one more and one less than a given number

By the end of the half term, the children should be able to quickly and easily say one more and one less than a given number without having to use objects to support them.

e.g.

one more than 5 is 6

one less than 10 is 9

Top tips

- Start by practicing this with objects or fingers – it is important that children understand the relationship between one more and addition, and one less and subtraction.
- Practice little and often. you could practise on the walk to school, while in the car, while walking upstairs to bed.

Geography

Earth, planet, continent, ocean, land, water, Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, Oceania, desert, environment, dry, rainfall, hot, cold, Sahara, people, plants, animals, adapt, conserve water.

Science

offspring, growth, baby, toddler, child, teenager, adult, old person, names of animals and their babies (e.g. chick/chicken, kitten/cat, caterpillar/butterfly), survive, survival, water, food, air

season, spring, summer, autumn, winter, year, weather, sun, sunny, rain, rainy, cloud, cloudy, snow, snowy, wind, windy, hail, temperature, hot, cold, warm, chilly, freezing, nature, harvest, tree, trunk, leaf, fall, blossom, petal, bud, bare, bright, dark, weather, sun, sunshine, sunny, rain, rainy, snow, snowy, wind, windy, rainbow, hail, sleet, fog, foggy, cloud, cloudy, drizzle, storm, stormy, thunder, lightning, temperature, hot, cold, weather forecast

See/ hear/ smell/ touch/ taste/ senses/ ear/ nose/ eye/ hand/ skin/ tongue/ food/ sweet/

Key Vocabulary

Autumn 1 2026

RE

Jewish
shabbat
festivals
chanukah

Expressive Arts and Design

Art

- Portrait
- Print
- Roller
- Observational drawing (drawing what you see)
- Printmaking.
- Printing Tools
- Mono print
- Repeat
- Pattern
- Press
- Roll
- Stamp
- Shape
- Evaluate