

## Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to school and to Year One! It has been so lovely to see the children settle back into school like they have never been away, especially after such a long period of time.

My priority this term is the well being of the children, ensuring they are happy and confident. Below is an outline of the curriculum for the Autumn Term.



**Phonics:** Children have daily supported reading and Phonics sessions. There will be a big focus on Phonics in Year One culminating in a National Phonics Check assessed in June. The majority of children will spend this term on Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs ('special friends') based on our '*Letters and Sounds*' Phonics Scheme. We encourage children to blend sounds together to read using their 'robot arms' or 'phonics fingers' and then segment ('chop up') words into sounds to help them make phonically plausible attempts at spelling.

**English:** To help children achieve their objectives we use a range of books including *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers, *Whatever Next* by Jill Murphy and *Stick Man* by Julia Donaldson. We use techniques such as role-play, hot seating and imaginative play to enhance communication and language, especially as we are aware they missed a big part of Reception where learning is often play based. The grammar focus for the first half term will be to form upper and lower case letters correctly and to build sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The second half term will have a focus on; words ending -y (funny, silly etc.), capital letters for names, places and the personal pronoun 'I', as well as joining words and clauses

using 'and' or other conjunctions for a 'chilli challenge'. Children are encouraged to say their sentence out loud before they write it, then read their work back to check it makes sense.

**Maths:** We follow the '*White Rose*' Maths scheme. This scheme has great parent workbooks that coincide with the timetable and objectives taught in school. I will provide more information about this on Class Dojo. We will be looking at place value within 20 (or within 50 for a 'chilli challenge'). This includes counting forwards and backwards, ordering numbers, finding 1 more or 1 less and understanding the value of each digit in a 2 digit number. We will also look at addition and subtraction within 10 and geometry (2D and 3D shapes).

**RE:** We will be learning about the Domestic Church (family), Baptism (belonging and a welcome to God's family) and Advent (loving and Christmas). We will also be continuing to celebrate the Word on Wednesday.

**Computing:** We will be learning about online safety, exploring 'Purple Mash', grouping and sorting (2DIY) and exploring pictograms (2Count). iPads are also used in class to support learning.

**Science:** We will be learning about the topic 'Animals including Humans'. Children will name human body parts and learn about our senses. We will compare different animals using vocabulary including herbivore, carnivore and omnivore. By the end of the topic children should be able to answer our big topic question; 'What makes me human?'

**History:** Our History topic is called 'Why do we remember the 5<sup>th</sup> of November? We will be learning about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder plot. We will encourage children to develop their enquiry skills as well as build a sense of chronology using a timeline in class for this topic as well as composers and artists we learn about throughout the year.

**Art and DT:** We will be looking at artists Mondrian and Kandinsky. We will be also be making self-portraits, firework art and Christmas crafts. In DT we will be learning about levers and pulleys by making a moving picture. We will also be designing a winter outfit for Stickman.

**Spanish:** We will learn basic greetings, basic parts of the body and the happy birthday song.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Home Learning to be handed in.</li> <li>- PE with Mr James. Children to come into school in PE kit. Please ensure children have navy joggers or leggings for the colder weather.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Music with Miss Dyer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reading books are changed. Please sign the yellow reading record to show they have been read so we can change them (currently paused due to benchmarking assessments).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New Home Learning given out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weekly spelling test. The spellings are often linked to the phonic sounds learnt that week.</li> <li>- New spellings given.</li> </ul>

There are a lot of changes for the children when moving from Reception to Year One. We aim to make the transition as smooth as possible for the children by maintaining some play-based learning for the first half term. My priority is to make sure all the children feel happy and confident moving into Year One! For this reason Home Learning and Spellings have not yet started.

Your continued support at home is invaluable in helping your child progress this year. Please encourage your child to read a variety of books; listening to your child read and reading to them as much as possible would be particularly beneficial. Please don't hesitate in contacting me if you have any questions regarding the curriculum, the Phonics Check or any other matter.

Many thanks  
Emma Sharpe (Year One Class Teacher)