

Year 1 Newsletter – Autumn Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers:

Firstly, we would like to wish you a very warm welcome to Year 1. We hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful summer break. We are all looking forward to the year ahead! The year one team is comprised of Miss Bingham and Eliza in Maple Class, and Mr Griffiths, Holly, and Tam in Beech Class. Billy-Jo will be working across the year group supporting whole class teaching and working with small groups.

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the first half of the Autumn term, as well as general timetabling information.

Our overall question this term is **'How does a human take care of themselves and each other?'**

In **English**, we will begin by reading, 'Lost in the Toy Museum' which relates to our topic of Toys. We will be reading this book as a whole class and using words and sentences to describe characters and settings in the story. We will also be focusing on key grammar and punctuation skills. Children will keep practising using their capital letters, finger spaces and full stops and begin to include adjectives and conjunctions in their sentences. A big focus this year will continue to be on **reading**. Children will carry on following the Jolly Phonics programme, this teaches children how to hear the sounds that letters make and spell phonetically. We also teach 'tricky' words, which children learn by sight. Please try to encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible and, wherever possible, please take the time to read with your child.

Our **Maths** focus this half-term will be on number and place value. We will consolidate our counting skills, learn to identify which number is greater, order numbers, count forwards and backwards, find one more and one less and become confident using the number line to solve addition problems.

Our **History** topic is 'Toys'. We will be learning all about how toys have changed over time. Children will sort old from new toys, looking at the materials used and be able to explain how toys have developed since the Victorian times. We encourage families to discuss toys from your own childhoods.

In **Science**, our topic will be 'Humans'. We will be learning to label the different parts of our bodies and thinking about what they are used for. We will be collecting data about our shoe sizes to make a graph and exploring our five senses and how we use them.

In **Music**, we will be following a scheme known as 'Music Express', where children will have the chance to engage in lots of different practical activities involving vocal and percussion sounds – this half term the children will focus on the unit 'Ourselves'. We will also have weekly whole class drumming on Thursdays.

In **Design and Technology**, children will be making moving parts for toys and pictures focussing on slider mechanisms.

Finally, our "big question" in **Religious Education** this term is: 'Why is it good to listen to and remember the stories Jesus told?' In this unit, children will learn about each of the Parables and a special lesson to be learnt from each of these stories.

Key information:



The school gates open at 8.45 and the school day officially begins at 8.55. We request your support with punctuality as we begin phonics groups at 9.00am. Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled. Children may bring their own water bottle to school, which is also to be labelled.

Our class **PE day will be Tuesday** for both classes. Children can come to school wearing their PE kit and remain in their kit all day. Our PE kit comprises of a white T-shirt or polo shirt, navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms and black trainers or plimsolls.

Homework will be given out at the end of the first week of each half term. It will consist of spellings, mental maths and there will be a project homework set. If you wish for your child to complete any additional homework, you can opt in for optional homework by returning the slip on the letter sent home.

Children will have a weekly **spelling test on Friday**. Please practise your child's spellings each week. Children will have their **reading books** changed weekly. In addition to this, children all have access to reading books online via 'Bug Club'. Bug club login details will be the same as last year. We will be sending home login details to you shortly.

We are really looking forward to teaching your children and getting to know them – please don't hesitate to discuss anything with us regarding your child!

Best wishes,

The Year One team

