

Welcome back!

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half term break. It's hard to believe we've already reached the final term of Year One! The children have made such fantastic progress, and we're excited for all the learning, exploring, and fun still to come in this last part of the school year.

In Maths we will be looking at place value within 100, money and time.

This term in English, we'll be continuing to nurture the children's creativity as we explore new Drawing Club adventures and further develop their grasp of punctuation and grammar. Our focus will include key concepts such as nouns, pronouns, verbs, and sentence subjects. The children made fantastic progress last half term, combining imaginative storytelling with important language skills, and we're excited to see their confidence and understanding grow even more in the weeks ahead.

Our core text will be **The Dark by Lemony Snicket**.

In History, we will be exploring the question *How have explorers changed the world?* We will learn about Christopher Columbus, Dame Ellen MacArthur, Matthew Henson and Mary Kingsley and identify where they travelled

In Art, we will be looking at sculptures and 3D play. Using paper-based 3D art forms, focusing on techniques like rolling paper tubes, shaping paper strips, and constructing imaginative sculptures.

In science, we will be consolidating their knowledge of plants and animals through picture books and practical investigations.

In RE we will be discussing the importance of taking care of others from different views.

In Music, we will combine all the musical concepts learned throughout Year 1 for an underwater-themed performance incorporating instrumental, vocal and body sounds.

Here are some things you might want to do at home:

- To support your child's learning in Art this term, you could encourage them to explore 3D creativity at home using simple materials like scrap paper, cardboard, or recycled packaging. Activities such as rolling paper into tubes, cutting and shaping strips, or building mini

sculptures from everyday items can help strengthen their fine motor skills and spark imaginative thinking.

- To support your child's learning in History, you could explore maps or globes together at home. Talk about how travel has changed over time, and even look up pictures or short videos about Christopher Columbus, Dame Ellen MacArthur, Matthew Henson, and Mary Kingsley to bring their journeys to life.
- To support your child's reading progress, we encourage you to practice phonics sounds and 'green words' (decodable words) together at home. Daily reading, even for just 10 minutes, helps build fluency and confidence. You can revisit sound cards, play simple phonics games, or let your child teach you the sounds they've learned—this really helps with retention!

Homework

The expectations are:

- Reading with your child daily
- Fortnightly Maths activities related to learning (this will be given out on a Thursday and should be handed in on the following Tuesday, if appropriate)
- Weekly spellings which will be tested every Wednesday

Your child will change their phonics book on a **Monday ONLY** at the start of the day. They will not need to change them at any other time. Please ensure children bring yellow reading record books every day.

Important information

Don't forget, that every day the children need: - a re-fillable water bottle, book bag to hold their reading record, spelling book and reading book and their lunch box (if they are not having school dinners).

PE Days

Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit (they do not need their school uniform to change back into). Long hair should be tied up and no jewellery should be worn – including earrings. Ears that have been recently pierced where earrings cannot be removed will need to be covered.

As a reminder our PE kit is:

- Plain black shorts
- Royal blue polo shirt with or without school logo
- Royal blue hoodie with or without school logo
- Black tracksuit bottoms (colder weather)
- Trainers (not plimsolls)

We will have PE on the following days:

Pandas – Monday and Thursday

Polars – Monday and Thursday

The teachers in Year 1 are:

Mrs Braham

Mrs Jones

Mrs O'Neil

The adults supporting in Year 1 are:

Mrs Hall and Mrs James