



I wish everyone a happy new year and all the best for 2019! Here in class 1 we have an exciting term ahead and we are happy to see everyone back smiling and ready to go!

English

This half term we continue to use the extremely successful RWI phonics program to help us with our reading on a daily basis. Class 1 are on the verge of starting a new topic in English -The Night Zoo! Through January, we are going to explore the setting of the Night Zoo, create characters to live there, think of a problem and then work out some way of resolving it. Class 1 are very excited to find out more about the Night Zoo and its zookeeper Tom Rivers. We will be adding adjectives and conjunctions to our writing to make it more exciting. If you can encourage a good sitting position and pencil grip at home and practise letter formation whilst sitting our letters on the line, that would be marvellous!

Maths

Work on addition, subtraction and place value will be continuing before we explore height, length, weight and volume. Class 1 will be using lots of concrete apparatus to work out number sentences, word problems and of course measurements.

IXL will be updated regularly to follow our progress through the curriculum and your support with this at home is extremely valuable.

Topic

Geography is the topic of choice this half term, in which Class 1 will explore mountains, rivers and coasts. We are going to learn about the temperatures, landscapes and wildlife of these areas and focus on case studies both nationally and internationally. Class one will be learning lots of new vocabulary through this topic involving peaks, summits, valleys, streams, rivers and ridges. If you and your child get chance, a sit down together with an atlas would be a great way to support our school-based learning.

Science and Computing

In Science, the class will be exploring the properties of everyday materials so if you have any books at home related to this topic please share them at home. We will be observing and investigating the differences between materials such as wood, metal, plastic and rock.

We will continue to develop our keyboard and mouse skills as we progress through purple mash.

PHSE and RE

‘Why do we celebrate special occasions?’ and ‘Why do we care?’ will be questions explored in RE this term. Being caring links well with bullying, which will be our focus in PHSE. Class 1 will be learning what bullying is and what to do if they or others are bullied. The underlying message of this topic though is kindness to others and looking out for each other.

PE

We are very lucky to have Project Sport coming into school to share their experience of a healthy lifestyle with us all. We will look at how to stay fit and healthy, how much exercise we need and some of the best ways to have fun and keep fit at the same time.

Your child will need a **fully-labelled** PE kit – including correct footwear – in school in order to participate. As per the school policy, long hair must be tied up and earrings removed or taped up in PE.

Important Dates this half term:

Parents’ Evenings – 11th & 12th February

Last day of the half term – 15th February



Here are a just a few ways in which you can aid your child’s learning at home and additional information to help you;

- Please continue sharing stories with your child and if possible, listening to your child read every evening.
- Please could your child practise writing both his/her forename and surname.
- Please support your child in recognising and practising forming numbers to 100.
- Could you also please support your child in correctly forming each letter of the alphabet. **(Letter formation sheet attached)**
- PE kits will be needed on both a Wednesday and a Friday. Please leave a PE kit in school with your child for the whole of each half term. They can store them in their lockers. Please note that PE may take place on other days also.
- Library books will be changed on a Wednesday and reading books throughout the week.
- Homework will be sent home on a Friday; usually consisting of a number of spellings to learn in a spelling book or through spelling shed and a Maths activity (either Schofield and Simms or an IXL online activity). The children will be given a username and password for IXL; we will inform you when we would like the children to complete these activities as we prefer them to be completed when we are concentrating on the same area of Maths in class. The children will be asked to complete either an IXL activity or a Schofield and Sims activity, not both. We recommend spending around an hour a week on homework and be sure to keep listening to your children read.

We all hope your child continues to enjoy Year 1. Please do let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. The children have had a wonderful first week and we hope they will continue to have a fabulous, fun time in Year 1. If anyone has any time in which they can volunteer in school to help with reading, phonics and other things please let one of us know. Thanks!

Mr Hobson, Miss Watkins and the Year 1 Team!



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j k l m n o p q r

s t u v w x y z