

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter Autumn 2



Welcome back Year 1!

We hope you had a wonderful half-term break and managed to enjoy some family time. It has been fantastic to see the children return to school full of energy and ready to learn. They made fantastic progress last half term — we are so proud of how confidently they've settled into Year 1 routines and how hard they are working.

This half term brings lots of exciting new learning and, of course, some festive fun as we head towards Christmas! Thank you for your continued support — it makes such a difference to the children's learning and confidence.

Quick Reminders

Here are a few helpful reminders to keep things running smoothly this term:



School timings - Classroom doors open at **8:40am** and school finishes at **3:15pm**. If you arrive after **8:50am**, please sign in at the school office.

Attendance & punctuality - Every day in school matters! A consistent routine helps children feel secure, make progress and build friendships.

PE days - PE takes place on **Tuesday and Thursday**. Kits should be brought in on a Monday and sent home on Thursday to be washed. Please label all clothing clearly. As the weather cools, jogging bottoms and school jumpers are suitable for outdoor sessions.

Curriculum overview - Attached you'll find this half term's learning overview, giving an outline of the key skills and topics we'll be covering. The children are now fully settled into formal learning and thriving in their new routines!

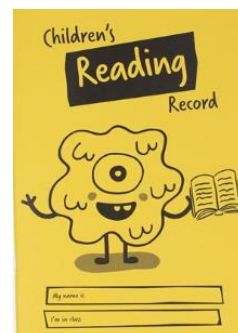
Phonics and Reading at Home

In Year 1, phonics and reading are at the heart of everything we do. Every child is making great progress with their *Read Write Inc* sessions — thank you for supporting this at home.

Here's how you can make the most of reading time:

- Read with your child **at least three times a week** (a little every day is even better).
- Practise the sounds and "red words" that come home in their phonics books.

- Encourage your child to talk about what they've read — "What happened?" "Who was your favourite character?"
- Record all home reading in your child's **reading record**.



Your encouragement at home makes a huge difference. Just 10 minutes of daily reading builds vocabulary, confidence and imagination — and it's one of the best ways to help your child succeed.

Online Safety: Making Good Choices Online

As children grow in confidence with technology, it's never too early to build good online habits. Through our computing curriculum, we teach our children about "**Being Kind and Smart Online**" — learning to make safe, respectful choices when watching, playing or exploring online.

At home, you can help by:

- Watching or playing alongside your child and talking about what they enjoy.
- Using child-friendly platforms such as **YouTube Kids** or **CBBC iPlayer** instead of unrestricted video sites.
- Reminding them: *"If something makes you feel worried or confused online, tell a grown-up straight away."*
- Using the **BBC Own It** website for simple, child-friendly advice about online life:
www.bbc.com/ownit

Together, we can help children develop safe and positive online habits that will last a lifetime.

Looking Ahead

It's a busy and exciting half term for Year 1! We'll be continuing to build our independence, develop our phonics and reading, and of course prepare for our Christmas celebrations. As always, these may change or be added to throughout the course of the term.

Event	Date
Half-term	25 th October - 2 nd November
INSET day	Monday 3 rd November
Parents evenings	w/c 17 th November
Anti-bullying week	w/c 17 th November
Family BINGO - PTA	Friday 21 st November
Christmas Grotto	Monday 8 th & Tuesday 9 th December
Y1 Christmas Carol Concert	Thursday 18 th December
Christmas jumper day, lunch and church service	Thursday 18 th December
Last day of Autumn term	Friday 19 th December

Thank you

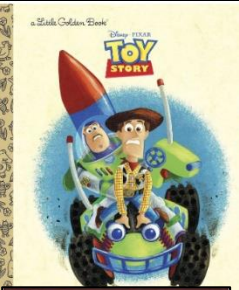
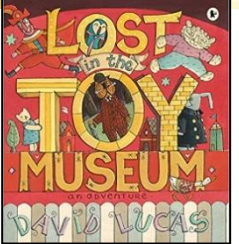
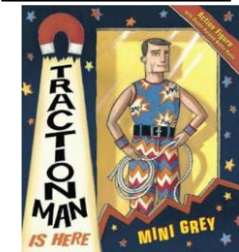
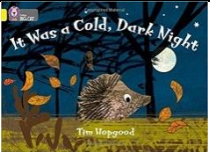
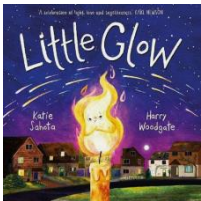
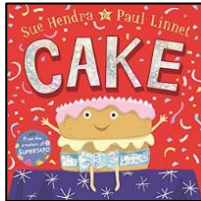
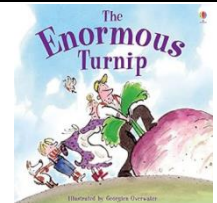
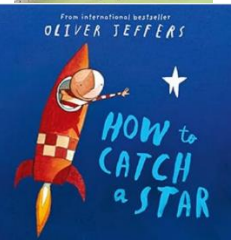
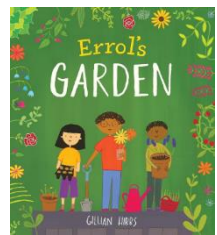
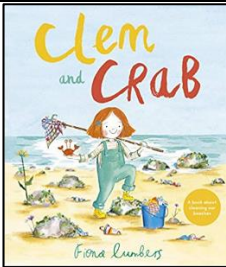
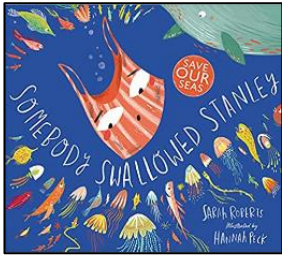
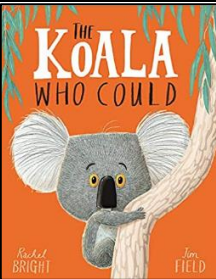
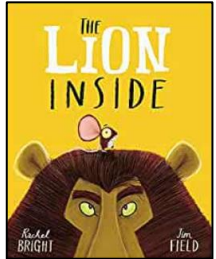
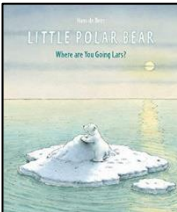
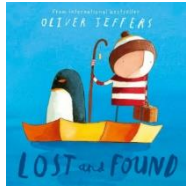
Thank you for your ongoing support — it truly makes all the difference. We're so proud of how hard the children are working and how much they are already growing as independent learners.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's progress, please contact the school office or speak to us after school.

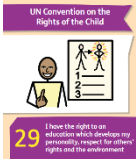
We're looking forward to another happy, productive half term in Year 1!

Yours faithfully,
Miss Strawn, Mrs Walker and Miss Howell.

Lark and Jay Class Teachers

Curriculum Overview	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	Feelings Changes in living memory (toys) Materials	Celebrations Seasons	Space Plants		PSHE - Being My Best Animals Including humans Habitats	Oceans and Seas
Main Text	  	  	  	 	 	 
Writing Outcomes	Toy Story Outcome: To write a label Purpose: inform	It was a cold dark night Outcome: Facts/ Animal riddle	How to Catch a Star Outcome: simple retelling of the	Clem and Crab Outcome: To create a poster (instruction on how to recycle)	Lion Inside Outcome: To write a character profile-	Lost and Found Outcome: simple story sequence Purpose: entertain

from entire unit	Audience: Form: information text	Purpose: inform Audience: Form: Sentences	beginning of the story Purpose: entertain Audience: Form: narrative	Purpose: inform Audience: wider school Form: instructions	description of the mouse and the lion Purpose: entertain Audience: Form: description	Audience: reader Form: narrative
	Lost in the Toy Museum Outcome: Description Purpose: entertain Audience: Form: Narrative	Cake Outcome: To write a description of the cake Purpose: entertain Audience: Form: description	Erol's Garden/Enormous Turnip. Outcome: To write a non-chronological report Purpose: inform Audience: Form: information text	Somebody Swallowed Stanley Outcome: Character Description/Rhyming Purpose: entertain Audience: Form: Description	The Koala who could: Recipe for a good friend Purpose: inform Audience: Form: instructions	Little Polar bear Outcome: To write a non-chronological report Purpose: inform Audience: Form: information text
	Traction Man Outcome: Purpose: Audience: Form: Narrative	Little Glow Outcome: To write a party invitation Purpose: inform Audience: Form: Narrative		A Great Big Cuddle Outcome: Poem Purpose: entertain Audience: Form: Poem		Outcome: fact file on polar bears/ arctic animals. Purpose: inform Audience: Form: information text
		Outcome: To write a recipe on how to be a good friend Purpose: inform Audience: Form: instructions				
Maths	Please see the medium-term plan.					
Science	<u>Describing materials</u> How can we describe materials?	<u>Seasons</u> Do seasons affect habitats?	<u>Habitats</u> What is a habitat?	<u>Plants</u> How do plants grow?	<u>Animals including Humans</u> How do animals survive?	

History/ Geography	<u>How have toys changed over time?</u> History	<u>What is our local area like?</u> Geography	<u>Who was the first person to space?</u> History	<u>Where is our 'local' area? (maps)</u> Geography	<u>Who was to blame for the Great Fire of London?</u> History	<u>Where are we in the UK? (4 countries and capitals of UK)</u> Geography
PSHE	Happy Relationships  Big Think: Do you think some emotions are better than others?	We are all Different  Big Think: What does the artist mean when he says everyone is the same and everyone is different?	Keeping Safe  Big Think: Being safe means crossing the road safely. True or false?	My Rights and Respect  Big Think: My rights are more important than anyone else's. True or false?	Being my Best  Big Think: What can I aspire to do and be?	Growing and Changing Big Think:
Art		Painting: Georges Seurat (pointillism) Could link to Local Area unit	Printing: Orla Kiely Could link to Plants and/or explorers	Drawing: Matisse Could link to 'Explorers'	Sculpture: Barbara Hepworth (Family of Man)	
Design and Technology	Construction - Junk model with sliders and levers Linked to Toys through Time			Sewing - Puppets Linked to Plants and Habitats (Own astronaut)		Cooking & Nutrition - Fruit Salads Linked to Nature & Explorers
Religious Education	Thanking Christianity	Journey's end Christianity	Belonging (Golden Thread) Christianity	Welcoming Christianity Palm Sunday	Community (Golden Thread) Hinduism	Story Across religions

		The nativity journey				
Computing	Programming - Making a robot move		Online safety	Creating media - Digital writing	Creating media - Digital painting	Creating media - Talking books
Additional computing	Online safety 1 lesson per half term (<i>Use previous unit but break up</i>)					
Physical Education	Run, Jump, Throw 1 Gymnastics 1	Run, Jump, Throw 2 Gymnastics 2	Send & Return 2 Hit, Catch, Run 1	Send & Return 2 Hit, Catch, Run 2	Dance (Teacher led) Attack, Defend, Shoot 1	Dance (Specialist) Attack, Defend, Shoot 2
Music	<u>"Toys"</u> Dynamics (loud, quiet, silence) Tempo (fast, moderate and slow)	<u>"Can I Be Helpful Too?"</u> Duration (steady beat, rhythms) Timbre (the quality of the sound).	<u>"As Cold As Ice"</u> Duration (long and short sounds, steady beat), Structure (beginning, middle end)	<u>"The Old Castle"</u> Timbre (the quality of the sound).	<u>"Walking the Dog"</u> Duration (long and short sounds) and Structure (patterns in sound).	<u>"The Three Bears"</u> Pitch (high, middle, low sounds).
Trips/Themed Days	Milestones October 10th		Wisley Gardens March 27 th		Marwell Zoo May 22nd	

