

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter Spring 1



Welcome back Year 1!

We hope you all had a happy and restful Christmas break. It has been wonderful welcoming the children back to school and seeing how quickly they have settled back into routines. Since September, the progress across the year group has been fantastic — the children are growing in confidence, independence and resilience every day; we are incredibly proud of them.

As we begin the Spring term, we would like to reassure you that Wellington Community Primary School continues to be here to support both you and your child, ensuring that every school day is meaningful, positive and successful.



PE days

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

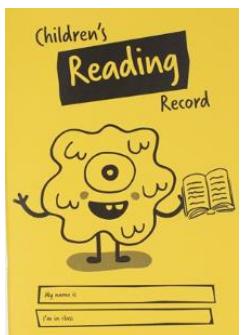
Phonics and Reading at Home

Phonics and early reading remain a central focus in Year 1 and are vital building blocks for future learning. Daily phonics lessons through the Read Write Inc programme are helping children develop strong decoding and blending skills.

To support your child at home, we recommend:

- Reading and practising phonics **at least three times a week** (little and often is best).
- Encouraging your child to say the sounds clearly and blend them confidently.
- Recording all home reading in your child's **reading record** so we can celebrate their efforts in school.

You can also revisit the phonics videos previously shared and we strongly encourage parents to keep an eye out for our upcoming **reading and phonics screening workshops**, which offer



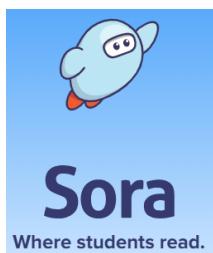
practical tips and strategies for supporting reading at home. If you would like to play some online phonics games with your child at home, we recommend www.phonicsplay.co.uk.

Just a few minutes of regular practice can make a huge difference — thank you for your continued support.

Sora Online Library

Before Christmas, children were sent home with their **Sora login details**. Sora is an **online reading library** that gives children access to a wide range of texts, all in one place.

Using Sora, children can enjoy:



- Picture books and early readers
- Chapter books
- Magazines and comics
- Audiobooks (perfect for developing a love of stories and supporting comprehension)

Sora is designed to be used **together with an adult**, making it a great opportunity to share reading time at home. Children can explore new books, listen to stories being read aloud, and build confidence with reading in a fun and engaging way.

We strongly encourage families to make use of Sora alongside regular home reading. Time spent reading — whether independently, together, or through audiobooks — all supports vocabulary, comprehension and a lifelong love of books.

If you have any difficulties accessing Sora or need login details re-sent, please let us know.

Online Safety: Making Good Choices Online

As children increasingly use tablets, televisions and games at home, it's important to help them develop healthy screen habits. Through our computing curriculum, we focus is on **age-appropriate content and balance**.

At home, you can support this by:

- Checking age ratings for games, apps and TV programmes before your child accesses them.
- Using parental controls and child-friendly platforms wherever possible.
- Talking to your child about what they watch or play and encouraging them to tell an adult if something makes them feel unsure or uncomfortable.
- Keeping screen time balanced with reading, play and family time.

For further guidance, the BBC Own It website offers excellent, child-friendly advice:

 [BBC Own It - Understanding Age Ratings](http://bbcownit.com/understanding-age-ratings)

Looking Ahead

The Spring term is a wonderful time for learning and growth in Year 1. We will be continuing to develop independence, confidence in reading and phonics, and a love of learning across all subjects. Dates and events may be updated or added throughout the half term.

Event	Date
INSET day	Monday 5 th January
Donation Day (PTA)	Friday 9 th January
Sleeping Beauty Pantomime	Friday 16 th January
Parliament Week	w/c Monday 26 th January
KS1 Cake Sale (PTA)	Friday 6 th February
IEP drop-ins	w/c Monday 9 th February
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 10 th February

Thank you

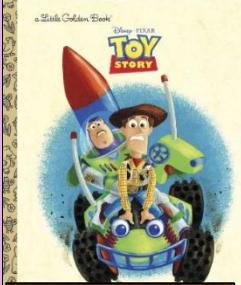
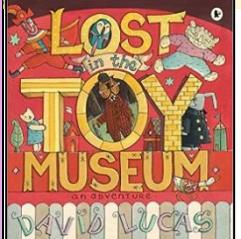
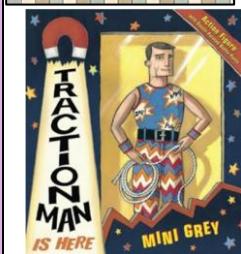
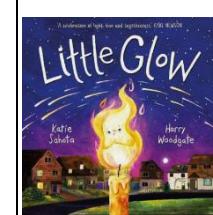
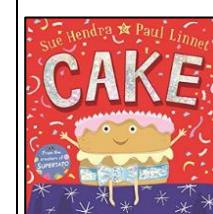
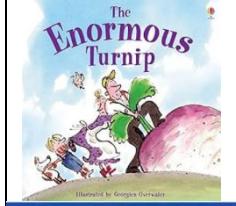
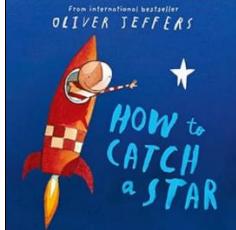
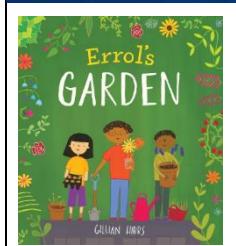
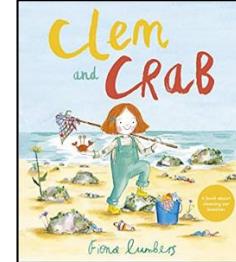
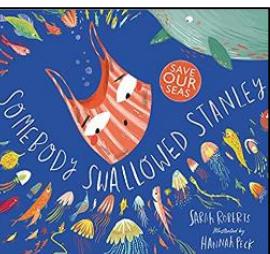
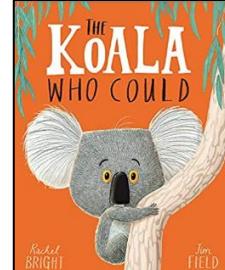
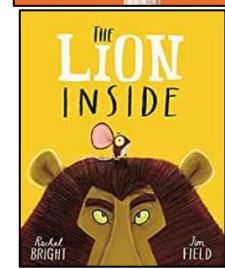
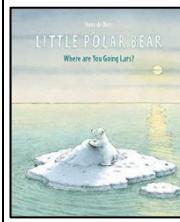
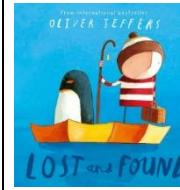
Thank you, as always, for your continued support. The partnership between home and school plays a huge role in the children's success, and we truly value it.

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 look forward to another positive and 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	Purpose: inform 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: description	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

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>Plants</u> How do plants grow?	<u>Habitats</u> What is a habitat?	<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) imbre (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			Plant Drama Workshop 9 th March	Marwell Zoo 14 th May. Return 4pm	

Learning Links

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpyR6hJPxiw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGw5yTOPTSQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bcO-2YBV84>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zhgxxbk>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zjq4g7h>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z6xd96f>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7chrmn>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/space/article/history-of-space-travel>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFweehLw0qs>

<https://capt.org.uk/csw-road-safety/>