

Meet the Team

Class Teachers

Mrs H Parsons
Year 1 Class Teacher

Mrs C Lewis
Head of School

Support Staff

Mrs E Poole
Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs S Gupta
Apprentice Teaching Assistant

Key Dates

Monday 10th October
#HelloYellow Day

**Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th
October**
Parents' Evening

Friday 14th October
Harvest Assembly
2:30pm

W/C 24th October – 28th October
Half Term

Monday 31st October
School Closed

Wednesday 2nd November
Flu vaccinations

Monday 14th November
Odd Socks Day –
Anti-Bullying Day

Friday 18th November
The Great SPOTacular Children
in Need Day

Friday 9th December
Christmas Jumper Fun Day

Friday 16th December
Last Day of Term –
school closes at 3:15pm

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1 at Marie Weller Primary School! We are very impressed with the way that the children have settled into their new year group and classroom. They are already showing what wonderful role models they are to the younger children, and we are very much looking forward to the year ahead!

As a class, we have already made such a strong start by working together and helping each other succeed. During these first weeks we have been focusing on embedding Year 1 routines and developing our teamwork.

Alongside our academic achievements we have also focused on our wellbeing and understanding our emotions. It has been wonderful to see how everyone has been working together to ensure our classroom is a calm and safe environment in which we are all ready to learn.

Mindfulness, movement breaks, teamwork games and cosy story time is all part of our regular routine which has had an incredibly positive impact on everyone's social, emotional, and academic skills. Here are some examples of activities we do in class. Feel free to use them at home too!

<https://www.goodmorningsfoster.com/emotions-toolbox>

Each day the children will be reminded of our three school golden rules **Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe**. We will use our reward system to support this, starting on the 'Ready Rainbow' moving to the 'Happy Sun' and then the 'Superstar'.

Subject Overviews

Maths

Our Maths teaching follows the White Rose scheme and during this first term we are deepening the children's understanding of, and ability within, numbers to 10. This is a very important unit as it forms the foundation for all mathematics further up the school. Therefore, our aim is for all children to be as fluent as possible in skills such as number bonds to 10 and counting accurately.

The next step will include addition followed by subtraction. We will also be exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

To help your child at home, we recommend downloading the free White Rose 1-minute maths app. <https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

English

In English we are following a scheme of work by Jane Considine and learning about how to write a story based on the book 'The Train Ride'. Building up to writing our very own narrative, we have been learning the original story whilst also developing our writing skills.

We have been focusing on skills such as onomatopoeia (Pop! Fizz! Hiss!), similes (The sun was like golden honey) and adding adjectives to describe what we might be able to see out of a train window.

After the half term, we will also explore non-fiction writing through the 'Dinosaurs' topic as well as getting creative with 'Fireworks Poetry'.

Spelling and handwriting will be done in class through the Read Write Inc phonics scheme.

Start of the day

It is really important that the children are ready to learn in the morning. To confirm, the school day starts at 8.45am which is when the register is taken in the classroom. Please ensure your child is at school before this to avoid any unauthorised absence.

P.E

P.E takes place on Thursdays. Please ensure your child's P.E kit is returned to school if they have used it for a club.

Homework

The homework focus during this first term will be on Phonics as we recognise the importance of developing the children's reading fluency in order to access other parts of the curriculum.

Therefore, we will share activities, games, and videos on Class Dojo from the Read Write Inc phonics scheme. There is no expectation to hand any homework in, instead we are asking you to look at the videos to support your understanding of how your child is learning to read fluently. Additionally, there will also be some fun activities to do with your child at home.

Questions to ask to support your child's reading comprehension:

- (Looking at the cover) – What do you think this book is about? Why?
- What do you think will happen next?
- Who was the main character in the story?
- How do you think _____ was feeling? Why? How would you feel?
- What was your favourite part? Why?
- What do you think this word means?

Phonics

As you are aware, we have recently joined the phonics scheme Read Write Inc and it is a very exciting time for us to launch this with the children.

No reading books are being sent home currently as the first step of the Read Write Inc programme involves the children focusing on consolidating their knowledge of sounds and applying these to words.

Once this first phase is completed the children will be placed in different groups to ensure they are all given the best opportunity to develop their reading. At this point they will be given a book band and books to take home weekly, but you will receive more information about this in due course.

Please do continue to read with – and to – your child as often as possible and encourage them to reflect on what they are reading as this supports both their comprehension skills whilst also building their vocabulary.

There are also plenty of books available as video versions on YouTube and even audiobooks on Spotify.

Science

In our science lessons, the children will be exploring the seasonal changes throughout the year and focusing on Summer and Autumn. We will be going out on the hunt for signs of Autumn around the school. We will also be learning all about everyday materials and their properties.

Humanities

In Geography, the children will develop their understanding of their own locality by identifying human and physical features. They will use maps, atlases, and globes to identify the UK and its countries.

In History, the children will begin to think about the things which have changed and stayed the same within living memory.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

If you have any questions regarding the above or wish to speak to a member of staff regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best wishes

The Year 1 Team