

Meet the Team

Class Teachers

Mrs H Parsons
Year 1 Class Teacher

Mrs C Lewis
Head of School

Support Staff

Mrs J Slatter
Teaching Assistant

Mrs S Gupta
Apprentice Teaching Assistant

Key Dates

Monday 23rd January
Owl Visit

**Wednesdays 25th January; 1st & 8th
February**
Forest School (alternative groups)

Friday 3rd February
NSPCC Number Day

W/C: Monday 6th February
Children's Mental Health Week

W/C: Monday 13th February
Half Term

Thursday 2nd March
World Book Day

Monday 6th March
Parents' evening

Wednesday 8th March
Parents' evening
& International Women's Day

Friday 17th March
Comic Relief – Red Nose Day

Thursday 30th March
Spring Assembly –
Year 1 & Reception - 10:30am

Friday 31st March
Last Day of Term – school closes at
3:15pm

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

We hope you've all had a lovely Christmas break, managed to stay well and enjoyed spending family-time together. Here are a few of the many exciting things we have planned for this term.

As a team we feel so proud of everything that the children have achieved during the Autumn Term and we are very excited to continue to explore a wide variety of topics with them.

Each day the children will be reminded of our three school golden rules **Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe** and our Class Dojo system is also linked to these rules.

The children can receive both individual Dojos as well as Team Dojos for when they have worked together well as a class. When we reach 30 Team Dojos we have a Dojo treat to celebrate. We usually discuss and negotiate in pairs what we would like our reward to be, then hold a democratic vote to decide. Our latest one was a free-flow craft session which included, colouring, painting, drawing and paper crafts.

Subject Overviews

English

This term we will be exploring non-fiction books; creating owl information booklets, using information from our exciting owl visit and learning about dictionaries, definitions and alphabetical order. We will also be sentence stacking, inspired by the Jill Murphy story, 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark', and will write our own narrative story.

Maths

We are doing a lot of work in Maths on place value and understanding which digit in a number is a ten or a one (used to be referred to as a unit). This will enable us to work on increasingly larger numbers, this term focusing on 10-50. We will practise adding, subtracting and comparing these numbers, using the symbols $+$ $-$ $>$ $<$ $=$ and counting in twos, fives and tens. Towards Easter, we will be learning how to measure length, height, weight and volume.

A particular focus for our class is recalling number bonds to and within 10 without having to count. (e.g. $5 + 2 = 7$ and $6 + 4 = 10$). Please can you continue to practise this with your child at home. Once your child is secure, please feel free to move on to numbers up to 20 (e.g. $10 + 7 = 17$ and $11 + 9 = 20$).

To help your child at home, we recommend downloading the free White Rose 1-minute maths app if you haven't done so already. <https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

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 a late mark.

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

Reading and Spellings

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

Your child will have received a letter stating which Read Write Inc book band they are currently on and further advice on how to support your child's reading at home.

In addition, your child will be given an updated copy of their Year 1 Common Exception Words (or 'tricky' words). The highlighted words are the ones they can either read or spell.

Please continue to practise these at home as it will support the children's reading and spelling in school.

Maths

Numbers bonds to 10 and 20

Science

We will continue to explore seasonal changes, from winter to spring; how the weather and day length/light are affected by the position of the Earth. This term the children will also explore the human body as well as animals, including pets. They will learn the main parts of the body and our senses and will recognise and classify animals into different groups according to their characteristics.

PSHE and Wellbeing

Our focus for the spring term is valuing difference and being our best. We will learn how to eat healthily, about being fair and kind. The children will also be learning about the importance of perseverance, particularly when attempting a new skill.

Humanities

In Geography we will be learning about hot and cold countries. For History we will be learning about a significant person in history; the important life of our local Suffragette Marie Weller (does that name ring a bell?). We will be discovering plenty of interesting facts about her and her life and will create a whole-school display celebrating the significance of our namesake.

RE

During RE lessons, the children will be learning about different religions' routines and rituals. They will also study how and why Christians celebrate Easter.

Art

The children will be exploring a range of media and techniques using paint, chalk and pastels, linking with our work in other curriculum areas, with a focus on owls. We will be exploring some of the weird and wonderful work of the artist Salvador Dali. The children will create their own Little Owl, using his drawing as inspiration. Also, a focus on Picasso's line drawings of animals, including owls.

As always, 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