

# Year 1 Newsletter

## Autumn 1—2025/2026

### Phonics/Reading

Using Read Write Inc, the children will continue their phonics journeys in groups across the year group. They will be taught the appropriate set of sounds to match their phonic stage. They will be introduced to a text over the week that they practise daily to build fluency. They will also learn to recognise red words that are not phonetically plausible. Every Monday, they will be given a RWI books to practise at home.



### Key Dates

**Meet the teacher:** 15/09/25 2.45pm

**Half term**—Week commencing 27th

**Nativity dates-** Monday 8th December 2:15-3pm

Wednesday 10th December 2:15-3pm

### Writing

Using the Talk for Writing approach, the children will be exploring the story 'Paddington.' After enjoying the text and having a fun 'Dress

Paddington' morning, they will start to learn to re-cite a summarised story using actions. Once confident, they will learn to innovate, change parts of the story, for example the characters or setting. We will end the term with a hot write where the children



Talk for Writing

invent their own version of the story.

### Whole Class Reading Text

This term we will read lots of books that focus on rhythm and rhyme.



### Class Read

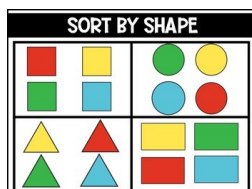


### Suggested Books for Reading



### Maths

In maths this half term, the children will learn to sort objects by colour, shape and category. They will practise counting accurately forward and backward, counting from a larger group, find one more and one less and compare groups of objects. They will use the language of fewer to compare groups of objects too. They will start to use number lines to aid their counting too.



<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/recommended-reads/year-1/>

## Science



This half term we are learning about *weather and the seasons*. Children will learn that there are four seasons in the UK – spring, summer, autumn and winter – and each has its own weather

and changes in nature. They will explore what makes each season special and practise recognising them from pictures and observations.

**At home you can:** Go on a walk and talk about the signs of the current season or read stories or poems about different seasons.

## Art

This half term in Art we are focusing on *observational drawing*. Children will learn that drawings are made with pencils, crayons or pens (not paint), and will begin to explore **tone** (light and dark) and **texture** (how something looks or feels). They will practise describing and experimenting with tone and texture using different materials such as pencils, charcoal and pastels. The children will also learn that an **observational drawing** is when you draw something you can see in front of you. They will practise this skill by drawing natural objects such as pine cones and leaves.

**At home you can:** Collect leaves or natural objects for your child to draw, encourage them to look closely at details like lines, patterns or shading or try simple drawing activities together using different pencils or crayons.



## Geography

This half term in Geography we are learning about *maps and places*. Children will find out that a map is a picture showing land, seas, roads, towns and other features. They will learn that they live in **Berkshire, England** (part of the United Kingdom) and explore the difference between **urban** areas (towns and cities) and **rural** areas (countryside). The children will practise using maps and images to spot physical features (like rivers, fields and countryside) and human features (like houses, roads, shops and schools).

**At home you can:** Look at a simple map together (Google Maps or an atlas) and find your street or town or talk about features you see when walking – e.g. roads, fields, shops, rivers.



## PE

This half term in PE we are focusing on *coordination and balance*. Children will practise moving with control through different footwork activities and develop their ability to balance on one leg. They will explore these skills through fun stories, songs and games – such as going on pretend bike rides and pirate adventures!

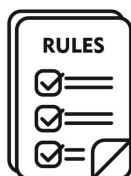
**At home you can:** Play simple movement games like “hop to the tree” or “walk heel-to-toe” or encourage your child to try balancing games outdoors, such as walking along a low wall or line on the ground.



## PSHE

This half term in PSHE we are starting our new Jigsaw unit. Children will be introduced to their *Jigsaw Journals* and the *Jigsaw Charter*, which helps everyone understand how to work and play safely together. They will talk about rights and responsibilities, making good choices, and understanding consequences. The children will also explore what makes them special, how to help everyone feel safe in class, and ways to keep themselves safe too.

**At home you can:** Talk about rules at home and why they are important, celebrate what makes your child special or encourage your child to think about how their actions can help others feel safe and happy.



## Music

This half term in Music we are learning to *keep the pulse* (the steady beat in music). Children will practise clapping the rhythm of their name, swaying or tapping in time to the beat, and singing along in rhythm. They will also use instruments to copy word-pattern rhythms and keep the pulse while playing. Finally, the children will follow instructions to perform together as a group.

**At home you can:** Play favourite songs and encourage your child to clap or tap along to the beat or take turns making up simple rhythms with words (e.g. names, foods) and copy each other.



## RE

This half term our enquiry question is: *What do Christians believe about God?* Children will explore the idea of God as a ‘Father’ in Christianity. They will hear the Christian story of Creation from the Old Testament and think about the responsibility Christians may feel to care for the world. They will also learn about the commandment from the New Testament to “*Love your neighbour as yourself*” and consider how this might guide Christians to care for other people.

**At home you can:** Talk about ways your family cares for the world (e.g. recycling, looking after pets, saving energy) or read or share stories that highlight kindness and caring for others.

