

**Year 1**



**Autumn 2021**  
**Curriculum Information**

Now that your child is in Year 1 they are starting a more formalised style of learning. During the autumn term the class will continue to have some active learning in the way that they did in Reception, but for much shorter periods of time.

## English

### Reading:

In class reading is taught through **phonics, guided reading, shared reading** and **reading for pleasure**.

Every day the children will have a phonics lessons where they learn to decode the 44 phonemes of the English language. In the summer term there is a formal assessment of each child's ability to decode words. You will receive more details about this nearer to the time, but we are careful to ensure that the children are not aware that it is a form of assessment.

The daily guided reading session is an opportunity for the children to either read with the teacher in a small group or do activities and tasks related to reading. As they have a teacher working with them, this text is usually a bit more challenging than their home reading book. In addition, there will be many opportunities for shared reading throughout the school day, not just in literacy lessons, but in maths and topic subjects too. This ensures that children are reading for a purpose and understand that reading allows them to access other learning. At the end of the day there is an opportunity to enjoy reading for pleasure when we read the class story.

Your child will be given a reading book to practise reading at home. They should read this book three times with an adult. The first reading is to decode words, the second reading is for comprehension and the third time is for fluency and to see themselves as readers.

Please sign your child's planner when they read to you as 20 reading signatures means a Reading Reward book for your child. When they have read three times, they can change their book for a new one.

We subscribe to **Bug Club**, so your child can read e-books for free. These are banded in the same way as the reading books in school.

### Writing:

Writing is taught through '*Talk for Writing*'. This process starts with the children reading a story or text and understanding its meaning by creating a story map. This story map is then used to help the children learn the story by heart. In doing this they are learning phrases and sentence structures that do not occur in spoken English, but are part of our rich written language. With structured texts as a basis the children then re-invent the story, making changes to suit their own ideas. They are quickly able to see themselves as writers, applying their own phonic knowledge to their work. These texts are from a range of genres:

- **Fiction:** Reading stories that deal with themes of having a new class teacher, feelings of being scared and a trip to the zoo. Being able to orally re-tell stories and relate them to their own personal experiences. Form opinions on different texts and characters.
- **Non-Fiction:** Using an interactive eBook *Who Lives Here?*, the children link the text to their own experiences and use maps to recall the sequence of events in the eBook. They compose factual sentences about animals and write a nature diary.
- **Poetry:** Understanding our senses and how they are used within poetry. Understanding rhyming words. Forming opinions on favourite phrases from various

poems. Recognise and join in with predictable phrases. Children will go onto understanding poetry and then begin to write their own compositions.

- **Grammar:** the children will begin to understand simple punctuation such as capital letters, full-stops and question marks and use these within their writing.
- **Spelling:** pupils will be given 4-6 spellings every week, which they are expected to learn. They will write them out each day at school as this is a good way to help them practise and learn their spellings. At home they need to write the word in a sentence in their red book, which is handed in on a so that they understand the context of the word too.
- **Handwriting:** the children will be learning to develop a fluent handwriting style with correctly formed letters, ready to move onto joined handwriting in Year 2 and Year 3. Joined handwriting is important because it aids spelling and speeds writing.

Pupils will be allocated e-book copies of many of the texts read at school. Please log into Wordsmith to share these resources with your child.

## Maths

We will be covering:

- **Positional Language**
- **Addition and subtraction.**
- **Properties of shapes.**
- **Measurements**
- **Estimating and ordering of numbers** and understanding the terms 'one more' and 'one less'.

In school we use equipment such as Numicon, beadstrings, counters, tens frames and Cuisenaire rods to help the children understand the number system and to explain their ideas.

At home, you can help your child by spotting numbers and shapes when you are out and about. Encourage them to use money and to weigh and measure with you. You can also practise counting and number bonds to 10 ( $3+2=5$ ,  $2+8=10$  etc).

We are continuing to use **Google Classroom** to support our in-school learning. We will share information about class topics and links to resources that can help you support your child's learning. You are welcome to upload photos and comments about activities at home.

Our other topics are:

## Science

- **Everyday Materials-** we will be looking at materials and the differences between them. We will be exploring waterproof materials, absorbent materials and a variety of materials and their properties.
- **Animal Antics** - Animals and their characteristics.

## ICT

- **We Are Treasure Hunters:** Controlling Bee-Bots using simple programs and algorithms
- **We are celebrating:** Creating a card digitally, combining text and images

## Humanities

- History – Comparing **old and new toys** and considering why and how they have changed.
- Geography – **Map work:** We will be looking at a range of different maps from St.Albans to the whole world map. Exploring the map of the Hundred Acre Wood to build an understanding of maps and compass points.
- RE – **Thanking God for nature.**

## Art and Creative Learning

- Art: **Fruit and Veg** – Observational drawings in the style of artist Cezanne.
- Design and Technology: **Mechanisms-** Levers and Sliders.
- Music – will be taught by a specialist music teacher.
- Drama: KS1 Christmas performance.

## PE

- In Gymnastics the children will explore **travelling** using different pathways over or under the equipment. We will also explore **flight** through jumping and landing.
- The children will be taking part in **cross country** activities and learning **orienteeing skills**.

## Homework

- Your child's homework will be based around preparing for or consolidating their learning this term. The homework scrap books will be given out at the beginning of each term. Children should complete 9 tasks before the end of term, one from each area. Scrapbooks can be handed in at any time during the term. Spellings will be given out on a Monday and books need to be returned to school on a Friday ready for a spelling test.

## Helping your child

There are a number of ways that you can help your child to achieve their full potential at school.

- Aim for 98% attendance and arrive at school on time.
- Give them an appropriate breakfast.
- Make sure they go to bed at a reasonable time (and avoid 'screens' for at least half an hour before bedtime)
- Read them a story and listen to them read.
- Help them to complete their homework and to learn their spellings.
- Help them to learn their numbers 0-20 verbally and written.
- Ensure they have all the right equipment for school.

## Equipment:

Every day your child should bring to school:

- Named water bottle
- Reading book
- Homework planner
- PE kit (should be left at school throughout the week)