

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. We are very excited to welcome you back to Year One and continue with our fantastic learning. **School starts at 8:50am, the classroom door will be shut at 9:00am so that we can begin learning straight away. We finish at 3:00pm.** Please don't hesitate to come and see a member of the Year One team if you have any worries or questions.

Science

In Science this term we will be learning all about materials. This includes, being able to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made, identifying and naming a variety of everyday materials and their properties. Also comparing and grouping together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their properties.

Mathematics

In Maths we will begin to add and subtract numbers, to 10, using objects and pictures. We will practise our number bonds to 10 and 20, and identify addition and subtraction fact families.

Art

In Art this term we will manipulate and explore wire, as a material, to create a sculpture in Albert Giacometti's style.

**Reading Theme:
Kindness**

PE

In PE we are developing our balance, agility and coordination skills.

Dance

Phonics

In Phonics, we continue to learn and revise our phonemes and we will practise our segmenting and blending skills in reading and writing.

History

In History we will understand how toys have changed over time. We will research and then make old toys. We also have a toy shop in our role play area.

Geography

In Geography this half term, we will be focusing on place knowledge and to do this we will begin to explore our surroundings including our school. After half term we will be going on a walk around our local area which we will need volunteers for, so watch this space! You can help at home by discussing what you see in the local area when walking to and from school.

**Spring 1 in
Year 1**

English

In English we are continuing to learn how to write simple sentences correctly using our sounds, capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and correct letter formation. We will be learning The Gingerbread Man off by heart and using this and our previous story, Peace at Last, to create a bank of vocabulary to help us with our writing. We will also be writing instructions and character descriptions.

How can I help my child at home?



Read, read, read!

Reading helps develop their vocabulary and imagination and helps improve their writing and concentration. If you have any non-fiction (information) books, please read these too!

Please make sure your child reads daily and completes their **reading log**. Every time your child reads at home, fill in the box and encourage your child to bring their log to school—they'll receive a Dojo point for every time they read. Every 7 points they get a prize! Please ensure that you read the book at least twice, this is to make sure the children are secure with it before we move them on.

Talk about books:

Try to read to and with your child often. Discuss the illustrations, the characters, the language used by the writer, or whether you like the book and why. We are now doing a lot of predicting about stories with questions like 'what might happen next?' and 'how do you think the character is feeling?' to develop a deeper understanding of the story.

Everyone Reading in Class (ERIC) ERIC takes place every day 9-9.15 except for Thursday. We would love more Parents and Carers to stay for these sessions and read with us. On Thursdays, Parents and Carers are welcome to join us for Phonics Thursdays 9-9.20.

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ERIC

Websites

- <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

Great for phonics practice

- http://espresso/espresso/primary_uk/home/index.html

Great for exploring basic skills and topics across the entire curriculum

- Sumdog— The login can be found in the homework books. This is a great website full of exciting games to help embed out basic skills in maths.
- BugClub— The login can be found in the homework books. This is a fantastic website where your child can read books with you and answer questions about the story. The BugClub school code is: **shwa**

A Message from our Admin Team...

Please may we remind you that on our database we have a list of adults that you have provided who can collect your child. Please contact the office if you need to add to this list for the safeguarding of your child. Can we also ask that if you get a new mobile phone, you let us know the new number?

Homework, home-reading, library books and PE kits

Homework will be sent home in the children's homework books on a **Monday** and due back in on the **Friday**. Don't forget to practise the spellings, we will check these on a Friday.

Home-school reader books will be sent home every week and will be changed on Mondays and Thursdays. Please ensure reading books are **in school every day!**

Year One PE and Dance are on Mondays and Tuesdays. Every child must have a PE kit which needs to stay in school at all times. We will send it home at the end of term to be washed. **For PE your child will need:** a yellow t-shirt, black shorts or sports trousers and trainers/plimsolls. Children **must** wear their PE kit for their after school clubs too.