



**Year One
Spring Newsletter
2024**

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We have had a lovely first week back culminating with learning about the seasonal changes of winter during our Winter Welly Day today! We hope the children had lots to tell you about this special, busy day! We have talked about looking after garden birds in winter and we would love to encourage you to participate in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch at the end of January - more details will be sent nearer the time.

The children have been taking part in reading practise sessions to develop their decoding, comprehension and prosody (expression) skills. From today, the children are bringing home the reading book they have been reading this week in these group reading sessions. The children are encouraged to read this book fluently, sounding words out in their heads if needed to support this. This book replaces the 2 colour-banded books we previously sent home, which we are no longer using due to us following the Little Wandle phonics scheme with fidelity. As always, the children are encouraged to read as much as they can from a range of books, including ones they have at home or online to support their reading progress. We encourage the children to strive for their 'Reading Champions' award by reading 25 times at home from 8th January to February half term. Please therefore, ensure you comment in your child's reading diary **each time** they read at home - it doesn't need to be a full book - a few pages each day will allow your child to be a reading champion as we count the comments, not the number of books read.

Our first topic this half term is themed around different Julia Donaldson books and we will be exploring the pattern and rhyme in these. If you have any books by Julia Donaldson at home it would be great if you could share these at home and talk about the rhyming words in the stories. We will then move on to learning about Africa after half term.

PE this half term is games on **Thursdays** with Mr Fox - please see the email sent previously with information about this.

Next week, we have a Balanced Breakfast Workshop to look forward to which will prepare us for Breakfast week - we look forward to seeing your photos of healthy breakfasts on Twitter!

Date for your diary: Friday 26th January 9:10 is Year 1's class assembly for parents! We hope you can make it!

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Taylor and Miss Pyke

Spring Term Curriculum Overview

Subject	
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place Value within 20 • Addition and Subtraction within 20 • Place Value within 50 • Length and height • Weight and volume
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read a range of stories by Julia Donaldson and notice predictable and repetitive rhymes. • Continue a rhyming string and write their own verse for Stick Man. • Describe characters from The Gruffalo using adjectives and conjunctions. • Understand instructions before ordering, speaking and writing a simple set of clear instructions using bossy verbs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To write sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops • To spell the 45 Year 1 Common Exception Words and number words to twenty • To use prefixes and suffixes when spelling words: un-, -s, -es, -ing, -er, -est, -ed. <p>Whole Class phonics will continue daily with spellings linked to these sent out every Friday.</p>
Science	<p>Seasonal Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe changes across the four seasons • Observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies
RE	<p>Comparing Christianity and Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about special books and similarities and differences between worship
ICT	<p>Learn how to 'log on' and use a password to access computers</p> <p>Introduction to modelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use the mouse with increasing accuracy <p>Information around us</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To recognise that computer programs use sound, text and pictures
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To name and locate the world's seven continents • To understand geographical similarities and differences between the UK and Kenya in Africa.
History	<p>Toys in the past</p>
Design Technology	<p>Create moving pictures – Stick Man</p>
Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter trees • Gruffalo paintings • Tinga Tinga African animals
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charanga Units (In The Groove and Round and Round) • Pulse and rhythm • Julia Donaldson songs
PSHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To talk about things they're good at and set goals in the form of New Years Resolutions. • To talk about healthy lifestyles – breakfast week • Safer Internet day – staying safe online
PE	<p>Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing and catching with different sized balls