



# Year 1 - Class Newsletter

## Spring 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to back to school. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a well-deserved break. This half term, Year 1 will transform into Geographers, by learning how to tell the weather as well as continuing to focus on becoming super readers!

All children in Year 1 need to continue to bring their book bag, reading book and planner to school each day. As the weather remains cold (and very temperamental!) an appropriate coat is needed and a water bottle to have in class. If you have not already done so, please do send in a PE kit, which can stay in school for the rest of this half term.

### Homework and Reading

Homework will continue to be sent out on Monday and needs to be completed and returned by Friday. This includes handwriting practise using spellings, a maths activity and also fine motor skills activity, focusing on either pencil control or cutting. In addition to this, pupils can also access Spelling Shed or Numbots to help support and develop their literacy and number skills. These websites can be accessed using the login details which are stuck in the front of your child's planner.



An essential element of your child's homework is their home reading. Pupils in KS1 are expected to read daily for 10 minutes. Reading continues to play an essential role in the Year 1 curriculum and all pupils are now bringing home two reading books each week. The focus is on reading and then re-reading books to help to move on from sounding out words to reading by sight. In Year 1 we aim to read blue, green and finally orange books to help us to be age-appropriate and expected readers by the end of the year.

### Phonics Screen Check

All this practise with reading helps to support pupils in getting ready for the Phonics Screen Check, which will take place the week beginning Monday 9th June 2025. The Phonics Screen Check is a statutory assessment, which all pupils in Year 1 are required to take. The check consists of 40 words, half of which are real words and the other half made up. Pupils are required to decode and read the words independently. Pupils are required to meet the threshold (last year this was 32/40) to pass. If pupils did not meet the threshold they will be required to re-take the test in Year 2.

### Learning Challenge

Our learning challenge this half term is to answer the question 'Why is it cold in winter?' We will look at hot and cold places in the world, seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK and also take part in



our own weather forecast!

**Thank you in advance for all your support this half term.**

Any questions, please come and see us at the end of the day or contact us via class dojo.

**Kind regards,  
Miss Riaz (Sharks) and Miss Ali (Dolphin).**

	Here is an overview of our learning across the curriculum this term.
<b>English:</b>	Non-fiction texts
<b>Maths:</b>	Place value, addition and subtraction to 20
<b>Reading:</b>	Lost and Found
<b>Geography</b>	Hot and cold places and weather
<b>Science:</b>	Planting and Animals
<b>Computing:</b>	Lego builders
<b>Art/DT</b>	Colour splash!
<b>RE:</b>	What is God's job?
<b>PSHE:</b>	Keeping myself safe
<b>Music:</b>	In the groove