

Class 1 Autumn Term 2026

Welcome to Class One! I know many of you know me well already but I am conscious we have a lot of new families joining us for the first time, so please ask away if there is anything you are unsure of. We are a mixed class of Reception and Nursery children who learn and play together. I am the class teacher (Mrs Lee) for all your children on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Mrs Hamlet is the class teacher on a Wednesday. We are supported by Mrs Grant-Shaw all week. Mrs Short works with the children on a Thursday afternoon and she will be seeing your child home at the end of the day. It will take us a little while to get to know all your faces, so please give us a wave at the end of the day if we are looking a little confused! If anyone new is collecting your child, please let me or the office know in the morning, as we are unable to let a child go without permission.

This term in Class One we will be exploring the topic **Heroes and Villains**. We will be reading lots of different stories around this theme, including the old class favourite Supertato. We will be using these stories as inspiration for our own superhero adventures, as well as thinking about real-life heroes in our community. In addition to this, we will be looking at the link between pop art and our comic book heroes, studying the work of pop art artists such as Andy Warhol, and creating our own masterpieces. The children will also have the opportunity to design and make a superhero vehicle.

How may I help my child?

Autumn Term is a big step for the children moving into Reception. They will have daily phonic and number sessions which will progress rapidly. Your children has now received their reading book. Please ask if you need any further help with this. I can't stress enough the value of reading regularly with your child. It opens the door to so many different areas of learning.

The children will also start their weekly challenge work this week. These will be posted on our class Teams page and will consist of ideas for short/fun activities that consolidate our learning in class. This has become an invaluable link between home and school life, with an aim to communicate learning with you in a fun and meaningful way for your child. These are normally set on a Friday, and the children are given an opportunity to share their challenge work with the class the following Friday. Feel free to post any pictures/comments of your child's work on Teams so I can reward them in school for their efforts.

In **Reception**, your child will develop their mathematical understanding through the Mastering Number programme, which focuses on building a strong understanding of numbers and how they work, rather than simply learning to count by rote. Through short, practical sessions, children will explore numbers, subitising (recognising small amounts without counting),

counting, comparing quantities, number bonds and simple addition and subtraction. We use songs, stories, games, objects and practical activities to help children develop confidence and a deep understanding of number.

You can support your child at home through everyday activities such as counting objects as you tidy away, spotting numbers when you are out and about, asking "How many do you think there are?" before counting, playing dice or board games, finding two groups of objects and working out how many altogether, or asking "How many would we have if we added one more?" Most importantly, keep maths fun and part of everyday life!

Now the children have moved into Reception, there is an expectation that they will tackle day to day tasks increasingly independently. For example; dressing and undressing for PE, putting their coats on and zipping them up, using a knife and fork at dinner time. These little changes help your child to develop confidence and resilience in a busy school environment. Helping your child to practise these skills at home would be much appreciated, as well as sending the children in clothes that are easier to manage on PE days. Tights and pinafore dresses are often tricky ones. PE lessons will take place on a Wednesday and Thursday. Please leave PE kits in school and we will send them home each half term for a wash!

The children in **Nursery** will be spending time getting to know the routines of school life. Simple routines like saying goodbye to a parent in the playground, before walking into school on their own, demonstrate a secure and independent child who is ready to learn. They will take part in daily group activities working on their speaking and listening skills, and will begin to form those special friendships that will last throughout their school life. Taking turns, learning to share toys and resources, and listening to and helping others are all essential skills that can be worked on both at home and in school.

If your child remains in school for a school dinner, please support us in encouraging them to use a knife and fork, independently to eat their dinner. This will help make dinner times a stress free and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns. My door is always open.

Mrs Lee