



Welcome to Year 1

We are delighted with the way all the children are settling in as they have made a wonderful start to the term. Here is some information about our routines and learning in Year 1.

Our learning

During the first part of this half term, we have been transitioning from Early Years to Key Stage 1 to settle the children in. This means that there has been a mixture of carpet learning time, guided groups and opportunities to free flow between different activities in the mornings. We will continue this until the children are ready for the routine of more structured English and Maths lessons each morning.

We started our English learning with a restorative text called 'The heart and the bottle' by Oliver Jeffers. The children made lovely salt dough heart necklaces and talked about the human life cycle during Science, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Next week we will begin our unit 'Exploring Environments'. We have a great story to share, but we are keeping this as a surprise until we introduce it to the children next week. In topic we will be developing our geography skills while exploring our local area and comparing it to the setting of the book. Our biology unit will see us using our scientific enquiry skills to learn about plants.

During the second half term, we will change our focus to a history topic about **Space**. The children will be learning about significant people in history focusing on Neil Armstrong and Katherine Johnson, thinking about the difference and similarities they both share. In art, we will be making some Kandinsky-inspired space art that will be in 3D! To keep up the excitement we are going to keep the names of the books we will be using to inspire our writing a secret until we reveal them to the children.

Useful Information:

- Thursday and Fridays: children will need to come in to school and return home from school in clothes suitable for PE (with suitable footwear).
- There should be no jewellery worn in school. If the children are wearing earrings, even studs, these need to be taken out or taped up for PE.

How you can help:

- Make sure your child brings in their **book bag** and **water bottle** every day - they have been doing a great job so far!
- Write your child's name and class on **all** clothing, especially jumpers and PE kits.
- Talk to your child about their day and ask them lots of questions about their exciting learning!
- **Read, read and read!** - Please listen to your child read their bug books online for **at least 10 minutes every day**, as well as reading other books to them to listen and enjoy.
- Your child will have a login to Google Classroom and Bug Club sent to them this week. Please ensure that your child has had a go at logging in and accessing Google Classroom and Bug Club at home from a laptop, tablet or mobile device.

If you have any questions, please email teachers@chisenhale.towerhamlets.sch.uk to contact the class teachers.