

Year One – Spring 1 Half Term, January 2026

Dear Parents,

May we take this opportunity to thank you once again for the generous Christmas gifts that we received at the end of term and to wish you all a very happy and peaceful new year. The following letter is to inform you of the topics during this half term. Our class theme is about living in the United Kingdom, recognising our major capital cities, the Great Fire of London and work in English on the text 'The Queen's Knickers' by Nicholas Allen. You will also receive a topic web which outlines each subject area.

RE: From Galilee to Jerusalem

In this branch of our RE, pupils will experience the ministry of Jesus, the Word of God. They will learn about the life of Jesus and his revelation of the Kingdom of God through parables, encounters, miracles, and teachings. They will learn about the rbn of the disciples and the nature of being a follower of Jesus.

English:

Writing:

- Write simple sentences that can be read by themselves and others.
- Punctuate simple sentences with capital letters and full stops.
- Reread every sentence to check it makes sense.
- Join sentences together with 'and'.
- Use capital letter for the personal pronoun 'I'.
- Use capital letters for people, places and days of the week.
- Orally plan and rehearse ideas.
- Sequence ideas/events in order.
- Handwriting practise to ensure accurate letter formation.

Reading:

- Make predictions based on what has been read so far.
- Identify and discuss the main events and characters in stories.
- Retell familiar stories in a range of contexts *e.g. small world, role play, oral storytelling.*
- Make basic inferences about what is being said and done in a text.
- Recall specific information in texts.
- Relate texts to own experiences.
- Demonstrate understanding of texts by answering questions related to who, what, where, when, why, how.
- Apply phonic knowledge when reading.

Reading books are changed on a Monday and Thursday. Please respond to your child's reading by signing their reading record. If it has not been signed, we will assume you have not been able to hear your child read and that will remain with the same book.

Reading is a daily routine in our phonics sessions. We want the children to be able to access all areas of the curriculum for which reading is a key skill.

Phonics homework will be sent home weekly. This will help support your child's reading fluency.

Maths

- Place value within 20
- Addition and subtraction within 20
- Place value within 50
- Measurement – length and height
- Measurement – mass (weight) and volume

Please support your child with their maths learning, number formation and mental maths. I can give you examples of what we are learning each week, where appropriate.

Mrs. Garrett will cover PPA time every Tuesday afternoon. She will deliver the Art lesson and a Computing unit this half term.

PE kits should be worn every Thursday for the whole school day.

Please can you ensure that each piece of clothing worn (particularly school jumpers & fleeces) are labelled with your child's name. As you can imagine it is quite difficult finding out who things belong to if items are not labelled!

Please can I also ask that plastic water bottles contain only water, have a 'sports cap,' ideally, and again, that they are clearly named. We have had several identical bottles recently.

Toast is available to buy on a termly basis for morning snack, or you can send in **one** healthy snack for your child to eat. NB: No snacks containing nuts please as we do try to be as nut-free as possible. Fruit is provided by school every afternoon playtime.

Homework will be sent home via our home learning platform – Class Dojo Portfolio

Reading books: 2 - 3 reads per book, changed twice weekly

Phonics group reading activities set by TA's leading each phonics group

Weekly spelling list for our test on Mondays

Home time routine: If you are unable to pick your child up as planned, please ring the school office so that we are sure to get the message through to us. If you send a message on Class dojo, we may not see it whilst we are teaching. Staff will ask for passwords if someone new is picking up your child. Please can I remind you that the school day finishes at 3.20pm.

I hope you find the information provided useful. Please pop in or send a message via Class Dojo if you have any queries regarding your child or their learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Cahalin and Mrs Fitzsimmons