

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome back after what we hope has been a lovely and relaxing Christmas Break. We have been working hard to ensure the children have an exciting environment in which to learn and to this end, we wanted to outline some of the areas we will be focussing on over the coming term.

Typically, the children will be based with their class teacher – Miss Gott or Miss Anderson; supported by Miss Rutter. DFC will support in the teaching of the PE curriculum and Mr Newton will be delivering his inspiring music lessons.

Our topic for the Spring term is 'Polar explorers'. Our first enquiry question is 'Can a polar bear survive without snow?' This will have a Geography focus in which the children will look at the different landscapes, human and physical features, climate and the polar locations in the world. Our enquiry question for Spring 2 is 'Polar explorers: brave or foolish?' where we hope the children will learn about significant explorers and then begin to form an opinion around their expeditions. This will be our main History focus for the second half term.

We will be providing a range of writing opportunities through our English work linked to our topic, including narrative, poetry, non-chronological report writing and other forms of informational texts. SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be taught in both discrete lessons and as part of the English session. We have attached the common exception words for Year 1 for you to support your child with at home. We have also attached the spelling rules for the coming term, something we hope you will support us in to develop your child's writing. We will continue to push for beautiful work and have made our expectations clear to the children on what this means. Please support us in ensuring correct letter formation and size in any writing / homework the children are doing at home.

Maths will follow the national curriculum for Year 1 and will primarily focus on the areas of number including place value to 50 and addition and subtraction to 20. We will also learn length and height using standard and non-standard measure. Knowledge organisers to support these concepts will be sent home, so please look out for these. Much of this work will be practically based to allow the children to continue to develop their understanding of fluency, as well as providing opportunities for challenge and reasoning their mathematical understanding.

Computing work will have a focus on digital literacy and how to use a computer to explore websites and use search engines effectively and safely. We will also practise saving images from the internet, re-naming them, organising and retrieving them in/from folders. We will then use these images to create a PowerPoint presentation.

Art will focus on sketching – use of pencils, exploring textures, patterns and shading. We will create observational drawings of different toy polar animals, a collage of a

polar bear hidden in trees and some work inspired by Linda Lang. Alongside this, we are completing a DT project which we look forward to sharing with you.

Science will be based around 'Wild and Wonderful Creatures', learning about the different animal classifications. We will then move to explore the lifecycle of a human and how we grow and make sense of the world.

Your child will continue to have PE weekly – please ensure that they are suitably dressed for physical activity. This will continue to be Tuesday and Thursday. We will be working on our speed, agility and fitness. We will also be practising the skills needed for tennis and badminton. In Spring 2 we will move onto gymnastics and games including cricket.

The protocols for reading continue to remain the same, with children being encouraged to read at home and return their book on Thursday. These will then be changed and a new book sent home on Friday. Before sending any books back into school, please ensure that the book has been read at least twice, that your child can discuss the book, make predictions about what might happen next and express their thoughts on the story. Guided Reading will be taught daily, and this will encompass phonics and comprehension skills. DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read) will also be provided throughout each day.

You should have received a knowledge organiser relating to our new topic and some homework ideas. Please share any work that the children have completed at home via Class Dojo and we will celebrate this in school. Homework will be sent home weekly to be completed and returned via Dojo by the following week. We will continue to celebrate this learning with the children and we thank you for continuing to support your child in this.

We look forward to an enjoyable term of learning. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the team via the school office.

Year 1 Team

First 25 sight vocabulary words make up 1/3 of reading and spelling in early years

I	am	see	a	can
we	in	the	and	go
to	like	said	you	is
it	here	come	up	this
my	look	at	me	on

Year 1 Common Exception Words

the
a
do
to
today
of
said
says
are
were
was

is
his
has
I
you
your
they
be
he
me
she
we

no
go
so
by
my
here
there
where
love
come
some

one
once
ask
friend
school
put
push
pull
full
house
our

Year 1 Term 2A Overview

Objectives that are in pink are a Y1 statutory requirement and individual words highlighted pink are from the Y1 non-statutory example words and their exceptions. The additional words and sets (in black) either reinforce the rule/ pattern being taught; revise previously visited spelling rules from lower year groups; practise a spelling rule linked to a Y1 statutory requirement or practise the common exception words. Each set of spellings contains 10 words linked to the objective. Please note all of the common exception words are not covered in these lists.

Week 1 The trigraph igh	Week 2 The vowel digraph 'ar'	Week 3 The vowel digraph 'er' (unstressed) 'er' (stressed)	Week 4 The vowel digraph 'ir', 'ur'	Week 5 Adding –er and –est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word	Week 6 Days of the week/ Common Exception Words	Week 7 Review Week
right	car	better	girl	grander	Monday	Within this assess & review week, use the provided Year 1 Term 2A Dictation Passages and the Spot the Mistake with Mr Whoops self-correction activities to assess pupil's progress against the objectives that have been covered within this half-term.
bright	start	under	bird	grandest	Tuesday	
light	park	summer	shirt	fresher	Wednesday	
night	arm	winter	first	freshet	Thursday	
fright	garden	sister	third	quicker	Friday	
tight	artist	rubber	turn	quickest	Saturday	
high	star	her	hurt	taller	Sunday	
l*	are*	term	church	tallest	there*	
by*	were*	verb	burst	slower	here*	
my*	our*	person	burn	slowest	they*	