

# Year 1 Autumn 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back! We hope you all had an enjoyable week off and had time to rest and relax. We have been so impressed with how well the children have settled into Year 1 and are looking forward to lots more fun and learning this half term.



Our new topic is called 'It's a Wonderful World'. Within this topic we will be looking at many different aspects of the world we live in, both far away and close to home. This will include learning about the different continents and oceans, different types of trees and plants, differences and similarities between people and the ability to make our own choices.

This newsletter is intended to give you information about what we will be learning about in different subject areas during this half term, as well as some additional information that we hope you will find useful. However, if you ever have any questions, please let us know.

## Our Curriculum

**English:** Writing sentences, posters, diary writing

**Maths:** Addition, Subtraction, Shape

**Science:** Seasonal Changes, Identifying and comparing different plants and trees, Longitudinal study

**Geography:** Oceans and Continents, human and physical features of landscapes, climate

**RE:** Nativity Journeys

**PE:** Yoga and Ball skills

**PSHE:** Valuing Differences

**Computing:** Pictograms (Information Technology) and Grouping & Sorting (Computer Science)

**Music:** Singing (dynamics and duration)

The children will also have phonics and handwriting lessons.

## Home Challenge

Well done to everyone who made a telescope for the first home challenge. We were very impressed with the children's effort and creativity and they loved showing their telescopes to the rest of the class.

Our next home challenge is to create a poster or information leaflet or collage about a continent or ocean of your choice. You might want to include information about the weather, famous landmarks, food, languages spoken, religions or find out about a particular country in that continent. Your child can bring in their challenge whenever they have completed it, before the end of term.

Home challenges are optional, but children who complete them will receive a certificate.

We look forward to seeing them!

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## Reading

We cannot overemphasise how important and beneficial it is to listen to your child read at home as often as possible. There are clear links between how frequently a child reads and their progress in both reading and writing.

At the end of every half term we will count how many times your child has read at home. Anyone who reads (on average) at least 3 times per week will receive a bookmark and will have their name in the newsletter. A **big well done** and **congratulations** to the following children who all read at least 16 times at home during autumn 1.

**Squirrel Class:** Abi, Amelia, Aubrey, Emily, Federico, Nicholas, Talia and Toby.

**Fox Class:** Anders, Ashvath, Ben, Ellie, Fallow, Harper, Helena, Maggie, Noah, Oliver, Samuel and Toby

**Otter Class:** Evie, Cooper, Gabi, Oliver, Aria, Hudson, Oscar, Alex, Isla, Maya, Samuel and Leon.

The child who reads the most in each class will also be rewarded with a book. Congratulations to Nicholas and Talia (Squirrel Class), Ellie (Fox Class) and Isla (Otter Class).

When you listen to your child read, please record this in their reading diary and write what page they read to. Please don't use a green pen as that is what we use in school. We usually recommend reading a book twice before changing it so the children can build their fluency. We do not expect the children to read a whole book in one go and just a couple of pages every night will still be very beneficial. In school we encourage the children to read a page and use their phonic knowledge to sound out any words they are unsure of. We then ask them to re-read the same page so they can "read with speed" before moving on to the next one. This means trying to read the sentence again without having to sound out all the words.

The children will continue to bring common exception words home in their Fluffy word box. The children have to be able to read those words automatically, by sight, without sounding them out. Once they are able to, we will then replace those words with new ones. When your child comes across those common exception words in their reading books, please remind them that they know that word and to try reading it without sounding it out.

If you have any questions about reading or phonics, please speak to your child's class teacher who will be more than happy to help.

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## PE

Please ensure your child comes to school dressed in their PE kits on the days listed below for their class. The children can wear tracksuits for both P.E sessions this half-term. They will also need to wear trainers on their feet. Please can earrings be removed or taped before school and long hair be tied back.

Normal PE days are as follows:

Squirrel Class: Monday and Tuesday

Fox Class: Monday and Wednesday

Otter Class: Monday and Friday



## Dates for your diary

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November:** Outdoor Learning Day

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November:** Children in Need

**Week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas productions (class dates to follow).

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Lunch

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Year 1 Christmas Party (more information to follow)

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Last day of term early finish 2.15pm

The dates and times for the Year 1 Christmas productions will be sent out in the whole school mailing.



If ever you have any questions or concerns. please don't hesitate to speak to any of the Year One team as we will be happy to help.

Kind regards,  
The Year One Team