

# Year 1 Summer 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break.



Our topic this half term is '**Once Upon a Time**'. This week we have shared the story Rapunzel by Bethan Woolvin which has an alternative ending to the traditional version. The children will be rewriting the story and then moving on to look at Jack and the Beanstalk and write their own alternative version. We shall also be reading lots of traditional stories during our story time sessions this half-term.

If you have any queries, please speak to us on the door in the morning or at the end of the day.

## Our Curriculum

**English:** Wanted poster, Story writing

**Maths:** Multiplication, division, fractions, position and direction

**Science:** Habitats and variation

**Art:** Clay canvas flowers

**RE:** Creation

**Geography:** Outside mapping of school area, aerial view using a key with symbols, making a map of a route around school and adding a key

**PE:** Team games, Athletics

**PSHE:** Being my best

**ICT:** Animated Story Books, Technology Outside School

**Music:** Pitch and Texture, tuned percussion

The children will also have phonics and handwriting lessons.

## Home Challenge

Well done to everyone who made a shield for last half term's home challenge. They were very impressive and we loved hearing all about the fun you had making them.

This half term we will be looking at our local area and maps in Geography. The half termly challenge is for you and your child to create your route to school by drawing a map. The map can be as simple or as detailed as you want, but we would like your child to include some of the physical or human features that they see along the way (e.g. trees, a post box, a bench, a park etc.). Your child can either draw these features or use a key. There is no right or wrong format - this task is intended to get your children thinking about what is in their local area and different ways of drawing maps. If you live within walking distance of the school, you might like to walk the route, taking a piece of paper with you and draw what you see along the way. Please send your routes/maps into school by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

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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 all academic areas.

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 18 times at home during Spring 2.

**Squirrel Class:** Abigail, Musab, Nicholas, Sutton, Talia and Toby

**Fox Class:** Anders, Ashvath, Ellie, Helena, Kian, Oliver, Olivia, Jayden

**Otter Class:** Cooper, Aria, Jesse, Hudson, Oscar, Alex, Isla, Maya, Zite, Grayson, Neyli

The child who read the most in each class were rewarded with a book. Congratulations to Nicholas (Squirrel Class), Olivia (Fox Class) and Grayson (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.

**Phonics Homework:** This half term we will be adding a phonics game in your child's maths homework folder each week. This will help prepare them for the upcoming screening. Ask your child to segment and blend the words to help them practise. Instructions will be given for each game. The children enjoy these in school and we hope you enjoy playing them at home! Here is a link to a YouTube clip that goes through all the sounds the children will need for the phonics screening and how to pronounce them [click here](#). If you require any further help with this, please speak to your child's class teacher.

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## PE

If your child has their ears pierced, please ensure their earrings are removed on P.E days. If their ears are newly pierced, please ensure they are taped before they come to school. Please ensure that long hair is tied up too.

The normal PE days are as follows:  
Squirrel Class: Monday and Tuesday  
Fox Class: Monday and Wednesday  
Otter Class: Monday and Friday



Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather as we are aiming to have our PE lessons outside this half term.

## Dates for your diary



**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May:** Bank holiday, school closed

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May:** VE Day 80 Year celebration-children to come to school dressed in red, white and blue

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May:** Outdoor Learning Day-children to come dressed in old clothes ready for a day outside

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** INSET Day, school closed

Kind regards,

The Year One Team