

Year 1 Autumn Topic letter

Houses and Homes



September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1! We hope you have had a fantastic summer and thank you for your support with your child's holiday homework. This term our topic is 'Houses and Homes', with bricks and castles as a starting point we look at houses, features of castles, brick patterns, make bricks and exploring the different houses and homes within the local area.

We are continuing with a creative curriculum where the subjects are integrated together to form 6 areas of learning. These are:

Understanding English, Communications and Languages - We will be focusing on oral transcription from traditional stories. This builds essential skills in listening, comprehension, punctuation, grammar, and attention to detail. It also helps students develop a deeper understanding of how spoken and written language differ. We will be learning to write in simple sentences using finger spaces between words; begin to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and full stop, question mark or exclamation mark and identify nouns and verbs using grammatical terminology. Drama will feature highly in order to improve our speaking and listening skills. Children will have daily phonics lessons to continue to build upon their phonic knowledge.

Mathematical Understanding - We will continue to extend our knowledge in number by working with numbers up to 20 and beyond. This will include counting forward and backwards, place value, addition and subtraction. In Geometry children will learn to sort, recognise and describe 2d and 3d shapes. Children will also continue to build on their reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Social Investigation (History, Geography, PSHE) - In History, we will be learning about Monarchy including King Charles, Queen Elizabeth II, Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and King William I and looking at the changes in houses over time. In PSHE, we will be learning what makes us different and individuals, and our body and what parts of our body do. We will also be learning about the British Values.

Scientific Investigation (Science, DT, ICT) - We are learning to apply scientific knowledge and understanding by investigating different materials and their properties. In computing the children will be working on their keyboard, mouse skills and the technology around them.

Creative Investigation (Art, Music) - We will be learning about colouring in skills, painting strokes, sketching, mixed media, portrait and collage. In Music, we will be working on a song to understand rhythm, keeping a pulse, adding instrumental accompaniment, performing our compositions and learning the National Anthem.

RE - We will be learning about Christianity and beliefs, and will be learning some stories from the bible.

PE - We will be doing both indoor and outdoor PE improving our balancing, coordination and team work skills.

For your information

Reading in Year 1

Reading diaries will be checked weekly and it is the expectation that your child reads daily for at least 10 minutes, and then has it recorded in their reading diary.

Books will be changed on Wednesday. Books will be phonics focused to help with your child's current phonics level and ability.

PE is on: Wednesday & Thursday IP, Wednesday & Thursday IK and Monday & Wednesday. No jewellery to be worn on these days.

Additional learning websites (the links to these can be found on our website - Year 1 Group Page)

Language Angels and Monster Phonics E-books. These websites are available for you to use at home and passwords and log in details for can be found on the front cover of their reading diaries.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning.

Mrs Pritchard, Mrs Kemp and Mrs Stafford