



# Year 1 Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2 2024/25



We hope that you all have had a fun-packed half-term break! This newsletter will provide you with information about the half term ahead. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

### Key dates:

- Celebration Morning - 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024
- 1NS Class Assembly - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024
- Theatre trip - TBC

The Year 1 Team:	
1NS	Ned, Lordina, Lisa (1-2-1 learning support)
1JM	Jack, Kate, Gina (1-2-1 learning support)
1ST	Stacey, Kathy

### History / Geography - Our topic this half term is 'Explorers'

Our Topic this term is 'Explorers' where we will be studying some of the famous explorers of our world. Our investigations will lead us to become explorers of our own local area. We will be building up our knowledge of maps, starting out with a map of our classroom before creating a map of our local area, looking at a map of the United Kingdom, and then the world. We will be looking at a variety of different maps and what these are useful for, for example: tube maps, theme park maps, world maps. We will continue to look at environments and discuss the physical features we see in the environment.

### English -

This term we will be reading 'The Naughty Bus', 'Astro Girl' and 'The Odd Egg'.

We will be encouraging children to use their taught phase 5 graphemes in their writing as well as noticing spelling patterns and implementing tricky words. We will also be looking at how we use nouns, adjectives and verbs in sentences.



**Reading** – We cannot stress enough the importance of having your child read to you daily. We are asking for a minimum of 10 minutes each day. Please keep your child's book in their bookbag so it comes to school every day. We aim to read with your child at least twice a week and your child requires the consistency of reading the same book.

It is noticeable when children are reading regularly at home and they are proud to share this with the class.



**Maths** - In maths, we will be continuing to look at addition and will move into subtraction. We are using concrete materials, part-part-whole models, and drawing pictures to work out answers. We will keep exploring problem solving and reasoning to find answers and justify them. We will continue to use concrete resources to deepen our understanding and ensure we are able to use a range of different counting strategies and problem-solving tools to work out answers.





Some useful symbols:

< less than   > more than   = equal to   + add   - take away

Don't forget to log on to Times Tables Rockstars!

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>

**Science** - This half term we will be introducing properties of materials. We will be investigating which materials different objects are made from and why that material is suitable for its purpose.

We will sort a range of materials and group them by their properties, and we will discuss what items we could make using those materials. At the end of term, we will make a boat in DT and choose suitable materials so that we can make them float.



Please send in any junk modelling materials that we could use for our boats.

**R.E** – This half term we will continue to learn about what it means to belong. We will be looking at the festivals of Hanukkah and Christmas.

**P.E** – This half term we are moving into coordination skills and looking at techniques involved with throwing and catching.

All children **must** wear their PE kit into school on the specified days. PE kit should consist of plain navy (black or grey if necessary) bottoms (leggings, shorts or tracksuit bottoms), a white school t-shirt or gem house t-shirt and trainers. This should be worn with a school jumper or cardigan.

**PSHE** - This half term, we will be looking at our bodies and how we can keep the different parts of our body clean and healthy.

**Music** – We will continue with our weekly music lessons with Duncan. Looking at rhythm, the beat and pulse, and using call and response songs.



**Computing** - This half term we are looking at digital painting. We will be exploring digital art and linking our work to some famous artists. We will continue to build up our computing skills by exploring the keyboard and mouse pad.

### NATURE GARDEN

All year one classes will have the opportunity to attend the Nature Garden on a Friday afternoon. If your child has a pair of wellies they would like to bring in, they are more than welcome to leave them on their peg. Please ensure they are in a bag labelled with their name.





## REQUESTS

If you have any items that we can use for junk modelling, they would be much appreciated. We will leave a box outside the classroom for these donations.

Parent Helpers: If you are able to volunteer for a couple of hours in the afternoon then please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange this.

### **Daily timetable:**

**9:00–9:10** Handwriting/ Finger Gym

**9:10 – 9:30** Whole class input Maths or English

**9.30-10.20** English/Maths (2 groups) COOL Time (Choose Our Own Learning – 2 groups)

**10.20-10.40** Phonics

**10.40-11.00** Break

**11:00–12:00** English/Maths (2 groups) COOL Time (Choose Our Own Learning – 2 groups)

### **LUNCH**

**1:00-1.30** Topic/Science/Computing/P.E/Art/PSHE (input)

**1.30- 2.50** COOL Time (and wider curriculum activity related to input)

**1:30 – 3:00** Reading groups will run alongside afternoon activities

**3:00 – 3:25** Tidy up time story time/maths/assembly

**3.25** Home time

Over the term we will be sharing examples of the work your children will be doing in class on our year group webpage: <https://www.thegemfederation.co.uk/bessemer-primary/learning-hub/classes/>