



# Year 1 Newsletter

## Spring Term 1 2024/25



We hope that you all had a wonderful two weeks over the festive period! What a fantastic start to the academic year we have had! Thank you so much for your continued support. This newsletter will provide you with information on the half term ahead. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office, who will put you in touch.

The Year 1 Team:	
1NS	Ned, Lordina, Lisa
1JM	Jack, Ibrahim, Gina
1ST	Stacey, Kathy

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**Geography** - Our topic this half term is **Polar Regions**

Our Topic this term is the Polar Regions – *How are the polar regions important to Earth?* In this topic we will be investigating the Artic and Antarctica, the life that can be found there, and how this differs from our life. We will also be investigating environmental issues surrounding these regions. We will continue to look at environments and discuss natural and human made objects in the world. We will also be looking at the world's continents and oceans, and be revisiting the countries that make up the United Kingdom.

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**English** –

This term we will be studying the stories *Lost and Found* and *Dear Greenpeace*. These books tie in very nicely with our topic.

We will be writing letters, post cards, drawing story maps and rewriting familiar stories... and even tweaking them to make them our own. We will continue to talk about nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. Keep practising letter formation at home encouraging children to form their letters with the correct composition (using the ditties really help with this) and make sure they are sitting on the line!

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



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**Maths** –

In maths we will be learning and mastering addition and subtraction up to twenty. We will be using concrete materials, part-part-whole models, drawing pictures to work out answers and exploring problem solving and reasoning to find answers and justify them. We will also be looking at the composition of these numerals and the written words.





We will continue to use concrete resources to deepen our understanding and ensure we are able to use different counting strategies to find the total amount, and counting out how many 'tens' and how many 'extra ones' make up a number. (eg. 16 is one group of ten and six extra ones).

It would be great if you could keep exposing children to the language of time, as we will begin to start telling time to o'clock and half past in the coming terms. Later in the term we will be looking at measuring length and height as well as mass and volume.

Don't forget to log on to Times Table Rockstars  
<https://play.trockstars.com/auth/school/student>

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### **Science** -

This half term we will be revisiting seasonal change and looking at the different types of weather we expect to see in the different seasons. We will look at how this affects us and the world around us. We will then begin to look at animal classification and how we can organise animals into different groups depending on a variety of permutations.

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### **P.E** -

This half term we will be having one indoor PE session which will be focussing on gymnastics. We will also have an outdoor session learning about invasion games.

All children **must** wear their PE kit into school on the specified days. PE kit should consist of plain navy (black 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.

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### **PSHE** -

This half term, we will be looking at differences between ourselves and how other people's opinions and views differ, as well as looking after our environment and sustainability.

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### **Music** -

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



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### **Computing** -

This half term we are learning about collecting and processing data. The children will then learn to group and sort data in a number of different ways.



## 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.

### **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/assembly

**3.30** - 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/>