



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to another very busy half-term in Year 1. We hope that you all had a lovely half term and are well rested. We are so very proud of the many things that the children achieved last half term and are looking forward to watching them grow and progress over the next few weeks.

As always, if you have any questions, please come and see us.

~The Year 1 Team

Reading

Reading is so important and we really appreciate your support in listening to your child read every day to help them to become confident, fluent and expressive readers.

Phonics - Little Wandle Letters and Sounds is our phonics scheme. When children bring home a phonics reading book it will be a book which they have already read in class three times. Therefore, they should be confident in reading the words with minimal sounding out necessary. The 'teaching' of reading will be done in school and reading at home should be a celebration of this. Please do not think the books are 'too easy'.

Golden ticket

This half term the children will be given golden tickets for honesty. In Year 1, this generally comes down to three things – Telling the 'real story'; owning up to mistake; and keeping promises (helping them learn that being honest helps build trust). One child with the most golden tickets at the end of the half term will be awarded with a prize.

Library Day

Library Day is Friday for Maple and Monday for Chestnut. Please ensure that your child has their library book in their bag.

PE

PE day is on a Wednesday for Maple and a Thursday for Chestnut. Please can children come to school with their PE kit on for that day. If your child has long hair, please ensure it is tied back, thank you.

Forest School

The children really look forward to Forest School sessions. They will need a waterproof coat and waterproof trousers or puddle suit. Forest School sessions this half term are during the penultimate week of half term. Chestnut will go on Tuesday afternoon and Maple will have their Forest School session on Wednesday.

Purple Mash

The school are subscribed to an online program called Purple Mash. This subscription software is paid for by school and each pupil has their own login with username and password. This can be used at home, as well as in school. We use Purple Mash software for our computing lessons. Each term, we will also set work in the 2Do section. This will be linked to any of our subjects including maths, English, art, science etc. If your child has access to the internet at home, they may want to do some of the tasks set. If they don't, they will have chance during the school day during continuous provision.

Dates for the diary

- Monday 23rd February—School re-opens
- Tuesday 3rd March— Taekwondo Workshop
- Wednesday 4th March—West End in Schools Workshop
- Thursday 5th March—World Book Day (Dress as your favourite book character)
- Monday 16th March—Thursday 19th March—Scholastic book fair in school
- Tuesday March 17th – Chestnut's Forest School session
- Wednesday 18th March—Class photographs and Maple's Forest School session (please bring their forest clothing in a carrier bag)
- Wednesday 18th March—U-dance festival
- Thursday 26th March—PTA Easter Bingo 3:30pm and 5:30pm
- Friday 27th March—Break up for half-term
- Thursday 2nd April—World Autism Awareness Day

Reminders

- As part of our healthy school policy please only send water in water bottles
- Please ensure that all clothing is labelled, including hats and gloves
- Earrings must not be worn for school
- Long hair must be tied up
- Wellies should be brought back to school and left on the racks in the outdoor area



This is what we will be learning this half term...

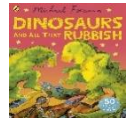
Maths

Place Value within 50: The children will be using their knowledge of place value as they learn to count from 20-50. They will count by making groups of tens and will develop an understanding of tens and ones so that they are able to partition numbers into tens and ones too. They will be introduced to the number line to 50 as they count forwards and backwards, estimate and develop their understanding of one more and one less. Length and Height: The children will learn to compare lengths and heights, and will learn to measure length using objects and then in centimetres too. Mass and Volume: The children will use mathematical vocabulary as they measure mass and capacity and compare mass, volume and capacity too.

English

This half term, our class will be diving into Michael Foreman's classic book, *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish*. It's a fantastic story that will help us explore some really important "big ideas," including:

- Nature & The Environment: Learning how beautiful our world is.
- Conservation: Finding out how we can protect our planet.
- Recycling: Discovering how to turn "rubbish" into something useful!



Science

This term, our young scientists are diving into the wonders of the animal kingdom. We will be naming and describing the physical features of various creatures, learning to sort them into groups based on their similarities and differences. Pupils will identify the unique traits of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish, while also categorising animals by their diets as carnivores, herbivores, or omnivores.

DT

This half term the children will be looking at fruits and vegetables to understand where they come e.g. farmed or grown at home; and understand and use basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes.

Computing

This half term we are looking at unit called Making Beats. This unit introduces digital music. Children will use the tools 2Explore and 2Beat to make their own digital music.

Geography

This term we will be looking at the weather. Children learn to identify and locate the four UK countries, recognise their own country and describe locations using basic compass directions. They also measure different types of weather, using symbols used in weather forecasts, describe seasonal changes and suggest appropriate clothing and activities for each season.

Music

In this unit, pupils will be using the piece of music called Carnival of the Animals by Saint-Saens as a stimulus to explore movements of their work and how instrumentation, dynamics, temp and pitch are to be used to convey different animals and the way they move.

PHSE

Our topic this half term is Relationships. In our upcoming unit, the children will be exploring the wonderful world of relationships. We'll be focusing on how they connect with family, friends, and the broader community to help them build a strong sense of belonging.

PE

This half term pupils will be learning about invasion games. In this unit, pupils develop their understanding of attacking and defending and what being 'in possession' means. They will use and develop skills such as sending and receiving with both feet and hands, as well as dribbling with both feet and hands.

RE

Children will focus on Christianity as they learn about the events of Palm Sunday and their significance to Christians today. They will learn why Jesus might have been special or important to the people around him and will learn to understand and re-tell the Easter story.