



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to our final term in Year 1! We hope that you all had a lovely Easter holiday and the children are raring to go. The Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks happens during the Summer 2 term. More information will follow closer to the date.

We would just like to say a huge thank you for all your continued support over the past few months; it does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated.

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 showing caring behaviour. To a 5/6-year-old, caring is a series of "superhero" actions rather than an abstract idea. In the classroom, this means moving from a "me" to a "we" mindset—whether it's the massive sacrifice of letting a friend use the favourite gold crayon first or noticing when a friend is upset and fetching a teacher. By practising "kind hands and kind feet," our pupils are learning that their small, everyday choices have a big impact on how their friends feel. The child with the most golden tickets at the end of the half term will be awarded with a prize.

## Library Day

Library Day is Wednesday for Chestnut and Friday for Maple. 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 wearing their PE kit for that day. If your child has long hair, please ensure it is tied back, thank you. The children will not have PE when it is Forest School week.

## 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 week after the May Day Bank Holiday. Maple will go on Wednesday morning (May 6<sup>th</sup>), and Chestnut will have their Forest School session on Friday afternoon (May 8<sup>th</sup>). Please remember to send in a carrier bag so the children can put their forest things in afterwards and take home for washing.

## Purple Mash

The school is 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 a chance in the school day during continuous provision.

## Dates for the diary

- Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> April — Summer term 1 begins
- Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April — PTA meeting 3:15pm
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Hobby Horse session
- Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> April — PTA Colour Run @ Workington Academy 2:15pm
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May— Bank Holiday (school closed)
- Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> – Visit from Oak Tree Animals Charity and a special 🐾🐾 guest
- Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May — Break up for half-term

## 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.
- As the weather warms up, please make sure that the children have a sun hat and sun cream (applied before school), if necessary.
- Wellies should be brought back to school and left on the racks in the outdoor area.



# Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

This is what we will be learning this half term.

## Maths

We will continue to follow the 'White Rose Maths' Scheme of Learning. We will be looking at Place value (within 50). The children will be learning to count forwards and backward between 20 and 50. We will also look at Length and Height. In this step, children compare lengths and heights of objects using language such as "longer than", "shorter than" and "taller than".

## English

Our focused texts this half term are 'Lubna and the Pebble' and 'Pig the Pug'.



Lubna and The Pebble focuses on the themes of friendship and kindness, culminating in a special project where students will gift their pebbles to someone else along with a set of handwritten care instructions. **Children will need a small box (shoe box or similar) at the beginning of the term for their work on Lubna and the Pebble.**



Pig is the greediest Pug in the world. He is bad-tempered, rude and he never ever shares. Friendly sausage dog Trevor is always trying to persuade Pig to play with him but without success. We will be exploring character motives and feelings before researching a selection of animals and going on to write an own-version narrative. We will then be writing a 'How to be a ...' guide and create this for a chosen pet.

## Science

Our Science topic this half term is 'Plants'. Pupils will be becoming young botanists as they learn to identify plants, trees, and their unique features. We're exploring how seeds and bulbs grow, the differences between evergreen and deciduous leaves, and the vital roles each plant part plays in staying healthy and strong.

## Art

Our focus this half term is paper-based 3D art forms, focusing on techniques like rolling paper tubes, shaping paper strips, and constructing imaginative sculptures. We will develop skills in creating 3D structures and applying painting skills in three-dimensional art, enhancing their understanding of form and construction.

## Computing

This half term, we are looking at a unit called Animated Stories. In this unit, children create digital books using the 2Create a Story tool. They learn how to work with images, text and sound. Children also learn how to animate simple objects.

## History

This term, we are looking at explorers. Our young historians are diving into the world of famous explorers like Christopher Columbus and Dame Ellen MacArthur to discover how they shaped our understanding of the world. By analysing photographs and timelines, the children are comparing past and present expeditions and identifying the courage and equipment needed for such journeys.

## Music

This half term, we will be using 'The Magic Flute' opera by Mozart as a stimulus. This opera is full of 'fantasy' and 'adventure.' We will be listening to the story and considering the evil Queen and how music is used to convey her character. We will compose our own music to create atmosphere and tell a story with a developing understanding of pitch, dynamics, tempo and rhythm.

## PSHE

This half term, our topic is 'Relationships'. We will be thinking about different relationships we have with people, being a good friend, people who help us and celebrating special relationships.

## PE

Our focus this half term will be sending and receiving. The children will develop their sending and receiving skills, including throwing and catching, rolling, kicking, and stopping a ball. Pupils will be given the opportunity to use a variety of sizes of balls.

## RE

Our enquiry question this half term is 'What is the best way for a Buddhist to lead a good life?'. We will be introduced to the teachings of the Buddha and the Noble Eightfold Path, focussing on Right Speech and how this would impact on the behaviour and life of a Buddhist.

