



Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope that your child has had a positive and successful start to Year 1. It has been wonderful getting to know the children over the past two weeks and seeing them settle into their new routines, build friendships, and engage enthusiastically in their learning.

The Year 1 class names are: Robin Class (Mr Bailey), Skylark Class (Mrs Dell Mon-Thurs), Ms Cain (Fri) and Nightingale Class (Mrs Linter Mon-Wed & Fri), Ms Cain (Thursday). Our Year One teaching assistants for this year are Miss Tatnell, Miss Thompson and Mrs Mitchell.

This is the first of our parent information bulletins for this academic year. The bulletin aims to provide you with information about the work the children will be covering throughout the Autumn Term and to cover some general points about organisation of the curriculum this year.

ENGLISH

Throughout the year, the children will be covering the National Curriculum objectives for Year 1.

We will continue to follow the Ruth Miskin, "Read, Write Inc." phonics programme and the activities undertaken will help to develop strategies for tackling unknown words in reading and to encourage independent writing. We will also extend children's sight vocabulary through regular reading of high frequency words and the Year 1 common exception words.

Using a range of stories, non-fiction texts, rhymes and poetry the children will be exploring alphabetical order, rhyming and story structure. We will be creating autumn poems using our senses and looking at stories involving animals.

The children will take part in a phonics and guided reading session daily. These groups will be reviewed every half term.

We would request that reading diaries and books are brought into school **on a daily basis**, in order to gain maximum benefit from reading help. The children will be encouraged to read each of their books **three times** in order to achieve accuracy, speed and comprehension. They will have the opportunity to change their books **independently** as they come into school each morning, but they will be supported with this initially.

MATHS

Throughout the year, we will be working from the Year 1 objectives in the National Curriculum for mathematics. This term we will focus on number and place value to 10, addition and subtraction to 10, place value to 20 and 2D and 3D shape.

In addition to this, the children will take part in **Maths Mastery lessons four mornings each week**. Maths Mastery helps children develop a deep understanding of mathematical concepts through problem-solving, reasoning, discussion, and the use of practical resources. This approach encourages children to explain their thinking and build confidence in their mathematical understanding.

SCIENCE

Our science topics this term are 'Animals' and 'Seasonal Changes'. Through these topics the children will be looking closely at the world around them. They will be encouraged to be curious and ask questions about what they notice. They will develop their understanding of scientific ideas by using different types of scientific enquiry.

In studying animals, children will identify, name and compare a variety of common animals and learn that some are carnivores, herbivores or omnivores. They will learn about the human body and develop a deeper understanding of their senses and how they can use them to explore the world around them.

Through regular observations, the children will learn about the changes across the seasons and will be able to describe the weather associated with each season, including how the day's length varies. Our outdoor learning activities will provide the perfect opportunity to support the children's learning of this topic. Over the next few weeks, please could you observe how the day is becoming shorter, perhaps noticing how the light is changing at bedtime and when the children wake.

COMPUTING

This term the children will study two units:

'E-safety' - how to use technology safely and respectfully, what information is personal and where to go for help when they have worries about using technology

'Algorithms Unplugged' – algorithms, decomposition and debugging are made relatable to familiar contexts such as dressing up, following directions or making a sandwich, while learning that instructions need to be specific and unambiguous.

P.E

Throughout the year, each class will have an indoor and outdoor P.E. lesson each week. Outdoor P.E. is on Monday, taken by 'NS Sport', and the indoor P.E. session is on Thursday. Please make sure that your child comes to school on these days in their PE kits. Kits should contain a school PE t-shirt and shorts for indoor activities, trainers and a tracksuit for outdoor lessons.

In dance, the children will be working on developing control and co-ordination in moving on the floor. In outdoor PE they will be focusing on multi skills developing hand-eye coordination and ball control.

R.E

In R.E. this term, we will be learning about Christianity, starting off with a focus on the creation story in Autumn 1, followed by the Christmas story in Autumn 2.

HISTORY

The children will learn about the Gunpowder Plot and why we celebrate Bonfire Night. We will learn about the significance of Remembrance Day and why some people wear a poppy on this day. We will also explore the history of toys and their changes through the years.

GEOGRAPHY

We will be talking about places we have visited on holiday and locating popular destinations on maps and globes. We will be locating the oceans and continents and will make our own world map. As part of our topic work, we will discuss different climates.

MUSIC

The children will be exploring 'sound' in music this term. They will learn to listen carefully, to be able to recognise and identify different sound sources and explore how loud and quiet they are. We will also be learning a range of songs that link to our learning and explore ways we can move to the music.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY (D&T)

In design and technology this term, the children will design and make an animal sock puppet. Please note that if possible, the children should bring in an adult size sock into school for this project. We will remind parent/carer reps of this closer to the time.

ART & DESIGN

In art, the children will focus on drawing and will look at the enquiry question: How can we use different media to make marks?

We will learn about the artists Mondrian, Bridget Riley, Zaria Forman and Kandinsky.

FRENCH

Our French learning this year in Year 1 and Year 2 is focused on speaking, listening – and singing! Children will absorb the sounds and rhythms of French by listening to and learning a range of French nursery rhymes and songs including *Frère Jacques* and *Tête, Épaules, Genoux et Pieds*. We will learn to say hello and goodbye, ask for and say names, count to ten and say how we feel. Children will learn about France and about French-speaking communities around the world.

PSHE

In PSHE lessons, we will continue to use Jigsaw, the mindful approach to PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) which is a teaching and learning programme that includes the statutory RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) curriculum and has a strong focus on emotional and mental health and wellbeing. The first two pieces of the jigsaw studied in the Autumn Term are 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.

THINKING SCHOOL

The children will continue to use tools from their 'Thinking School' toolkit, including thinking maps, thinking hats and habits of mind. The 'Thinking School' methodologies aim to equip children with the thinking skills needed to effectively tackle problems across and beyond the curriculum, both at school and in the future, through deep and critical thinking.

DRINKS AND SNACKS

Every morning the children have a break for drinks (**water** only please) and a fruit or vegetable snack provided by the school. You are welcome to send in a snack from home, but please ensure that this is either a fruit or vegetable (strictly no nuts). If your child would like milk, it is available at a small cost; please email the office to arrange this if interested. We do encourage the children to take regular drinks of water and would therefore be very grateful if **every** child could bring in a **named** bottle of water each day, with a sports style top (to prevent spills).

KEY DATES:

London Zoo Trip – Wednesday 4th November 2026

	Barnes Common Visit	Library Visit
1B	06.10.26	03.10.26 and 17.11.26
1D	20.10.26	22.10.26 and 01.12.26
1L	12.10.26	29.09.26 and 24.11.26

Library visit: Each child will visit the library once this half term and the class will be split into 2 groups. We will let you know which group your child will be in.

Thank you for taking the time to read this bulletin, we hope you find the information useful. However, should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Linter, Mr Bailey, Mrs Dell and Ms Cain

Year 1 Class Teachers

YEAR 1

HOME / SCHOOL TIMETABLE

MONDAY	✓ PE ✓ Book bag in school with reading diary and books
TUESDAY	✓ Library session ✓ Outdoor Learning (to begin in Autumn 2) ✓ Book bag in school with reading diary and books
WEDNESDAY	✓ Book bag in school with reading diary and books
THURSDAY	✓ PE ✓ Book bag in school with reading diary and books
FRIDAY	✓ Book bag in school with reading diary and books