

Science

During Science we will be learning about our body and how it works. The children will be labelling parts of their bodies and thinking about how we use them. We will be writing a description about ourselves describing our features. We will have lots of fun investigating our 5 senses. The children will think about what they can taste, hear, smell, feel and see in their environment. The children will be creating a sensory bottle later on in the half term so please keep any empty plastic bottles that you may have at home. We will also conduct an experiment using eggshells to find out which drink is the best for our teeth. This is always a very interesting experiment, which makes children think for themselves about their choice of drinks.

The Arts and Computing (Art, DT, Music and Computing)

During Art we will create self-portraits using different media. The children will think about facial features, including their shape and size and where they are on our face. They will also think about mixing colours to match their skin tone. During Music, the children will explore different percussion instruments and finding the beat.

Computing this half term focusses on supporting the children to develop independence in using a laptop. We will be using Purple Mash to develop the children's computing skills through activities linked to our topic. We will also explore online safety.

Humanities (Geography, History and RE)

Our Geography topic this half term is The Local Area: Our School. The children will learn about how geographers use aerial photographs, locational language and labels to describe areas in their locality, starting with the school.

During RE we will be thinking about God and Faith for Christians and Muslims. The children will explore who God is to Christians and Muslims and celebrating the similarities and differences between the two religions.

Dear Parents/Carers

It is lovely to welcome the children back to school after the summer holidays and to see the children settle into school life so well. In Year 1 we are working on a Transition topic called '**My World**' to help the children settle into their new year group and classes. Year 1 staff and Reception staff have worked closely together to plan the curriculum and activities for the children so that they make a good start in Year 1. We have incorporated some of the activities that the children enjoyed in Reception so that not everything is new all at once. We will be hosting a Year 1 Welcome Meeting for parents this half term. Information on this was sent home on Monday 15 September. Please return your slip requesting tickets if you wish to attend. This meeting will give you an overview of Year 1 and the expectations of the curriculum.



Homework

We will continue to set homework online using Google Classroom. The children will be set tasks which they can either complete online or take photos to upload. The children's account information will be sent home attached to their school reading records. For Year 1 all homework will be set each Friday and should be submitted on Google Classroom by the following Wednesday. Our first set of homework will be set on Friday 26 September 2025.

There will be phonics homework to help the children to practise their use of the sounds they have learned in school to enable them become competent readers and writers. We will also set Maths homework in which children will use what they have learned in school to complete different challenges. The children could also choose to upload a photo of their working out. Our 'Learning Log' style homework will be based on areas of the curriculum.

English

During English the children will learn to retell and perform several stories and begin to focus on the importance of nouns when writing a simple sentence. We have started with 'Not a Box', and will continue on to read 'Not a Stick' by Antoinette Portis. The children have been very engaged with the text and have enjoyed using their imagination to think what they would turn a box into. Over the next week the children will be writing simple sentences to share what the box and stick could be. The second half of the half term we will read 'Let's Take Over the Nursery'. This is a story set in a familiar setting in which the children can explore verbs and the role they play in sentence writing.

Phonics and Reading continues to be a big priority in school and we would like to encourage children to read at home over the weekends using the books we send home as well as sharing stories at home. This will help your children to secure their phonic knowledge that they have been learning in class.

Maths

During Maths we will be focusing on number and counting and deepening the children's understanding of what they have already secured in Year R.

We will be using Whiterose Maths Mastery to revise what the children have learned in Reception and build on their knowledge and understanding, focusing on place value within 10, comparing numbers using $<$ $>$ and $=$ as well as recognising and writing numbers correctly. The children will find 1 more and 1 less than numbers within 10 and apply their place value knowledge to a variety of problem solving and reasoning challenges.

We will use a variety of resources such as cubes, number lines, counters and ten frames to help count as well as other visual representations of numbers.

