



# Year 1 Newsletter

Autumn 2017

Miss Moseley (Year Group Leader), Mrs Najeeb, Mrs Chandra, Mrs Newton

Welcome back to school and to Year 1. Our first topic this term is a new one called **Feeling Hot, Hot Hot!** In this topic, the children will be finding out more about life in contrasting part of the world. We will then be learning about transport and travel in a topic called **Going on a Journey**. Over the course of the term, we will be covering all the subjects of the curriculum. The learning goals for each of these subjects are challenging yet achievable and designed to teach your child the skills they need to make good progress.



Throughout all the curriculum we will be promoting a positive Growth Mindset and the characteristics which will help children become more responsible, independent learners. We are calling them our 8 personal goals, and the children will learn more about them in class and school assemblies across the year.

The first term in Year One is a time of transition, as children move gradually towards more formal and independent ways of learning. At the start of term, it will feel similar to Reception as children work mainly in small focus groups with a teacher or classroom assistant or complete child initiated tasks. Over the course of the term, we will be introducing more whole class lessons, whilst continuing to support the children when appropriate in group work. Children will be expected to concentrate for increasing periods of time on the carpet and most will be able to work on some tasks independently by the end of term.

## Geography and History

We will be looking at:

- How and why we go on journeys
- How to make maps to record our journeys to school and other places
- Simple maps, atlases and globes
- Comparing life and climate in England with that of countries in other parts of the world
- Transport in the past
- The Great Fire of London



## Art

- We will be finding out about Kente cloth and designing and making our own
- We will sing a range of media to create pictures and collages in different styles.



## Science

We will be learning about:

- Seasonal changes
- Animals (including Humans)
- How to carry out a simple investigation
- Recording daily weather conditions (including temperature, cloud type and rainfall)



## Every Day Counts

Well done to the following children who achieved 100% attendance last term:

**1W** Mustafa, Abdulmuiz, Raania

**1T** Adama Ketura, Jack, Aaren. Preston. Amelia. Thaaniya

**1P** Elisa, Francisco, Kyle

**1S** Sahibdeep, Nikita, Udham, Nishta

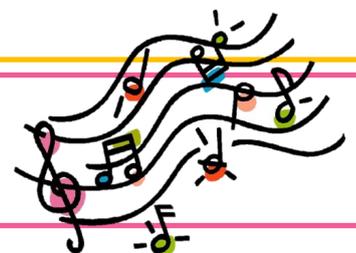


These children were presented with recognition certificates and stickers in assembly.

## Music

We will be learning how to:

- Clap out simple rhythms
- Use instruments to play simple rhythms
- Sing a call and response song



## Reading

It is important the children in Year 1 read at home as much as possible, ideally every day. This will help to improve their fluency and build confidence in reading. As well as their school reading books, pupils will visit the school library every week where they will be able to choose two additional books. You are welcome to change library books more frequently if you wish, before and after school. We would also encourage children to practise reading and spelling words using the letter blends they learn each week in phonics (these will be made available throughout the term).

In class, we try our best to promote the enjoyment of books by reading to the children as much as possible. It is very helpful if you can also do this at home, reading favourite books and stories to your child as well as hearing them read. This will help to increase their vocabulary and encourage a love of reading.

Our Core Texts this term will be **'Too Much Talk'** by Angela Shelf Medearis. And **'Where the Wild Things Are'** by Maurice Sendak.

We will be rewarding children in class for reading at home so we would be grateful if parents/carers would sign in their child's reading journal to confirm the reading activities.



## Home Learning

Home Learning tasks will be set every Friday, and should be returned by Wednesday of the following week.

When your child has home learning to do please support them, but without actually doing the work for them. If you are concerned that your child is finding tasks too difficult, or have other questions about home learning, please speak to your child's teacher.

To support your child during our topics, you can talk to them about the methods of transport you use and the journeys you make. If you have experience of life in a different country, you could share it with them.

Throughout the term, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and let them teach you!

Places you may like to visit include the Science Museum (great for space travel and rockets) and the London Transport Museum.



## Computing

This term, Year 1 will learn basic computer skills such as how to log on to the computer, open and save work.

Children will start to become familiar with the keyboard and learn how to type their name and then words and sentences. We will also introduce them to simple art programmes enabling them to create pictures, posters and maps. We will teach the children how to use the internet safely.

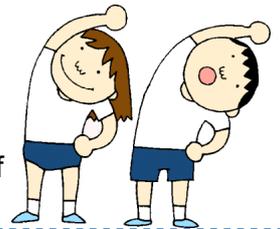
Any opportunities you can give children at home to practise their word processing skills would be very helpful.

## PE

Please can you ensure that your child has his/her PE kit in school every day, as although each class usually has a regular PE time it sometimes may change due to the weather.

ALL items of clothing should be **clearly labelled and in a named drawstring bag**.

For outdoor PE, trainers may be worn instead of plimsolls if preferred.



## SRE / RE

In our unit of work called 'All About Me' the children will have the chance to talk about their friends and families and share the things they like doing. We will be thinking about why it is important to listen to others, and think carefully about the words that we use.

In RE, we will be looking at how babies are welcomed into the family and the wider community.

We will find out more about the festival of **Diwali** and how it is celebrated. At the end of term, we will be learning about how Christians prepare for **Christmas** and why it is important to them.



## Technology

We will be learning how:

- To design and make a junk model vehicle
- To weave using paper or cloth



## Maths

This term we will be building on the shape and number work the children have done in Reception, as well as introducing new concepts such as counting in twos, fives and tens. By the end of term, children should be counting confidently to 20, forwards and backwards, and should be able to write the numbers appropriately. We will be practising number formation and extending counting beyond 20. Children will be learning to use the words more and less, most, least and fewer and give their own examples of the correct use of these words. Children will be working on mental and written addition and subtraction (using numbers up to 10) and solving simple word problems. We will also learn the names of more 2D and 3D shapes such as pentagon, hexagon, octagon, cube, cylinder and pyramid. You can support your child at home with all of these things, encouraging them to use vocabulary correctly and explain their answers (eg How did you know that was the answer? How did you work it out?). Use real life situations to reinforce maths concepts whenever possible, for example reading numbers in shops or on doors, finding examples of 2d and 3d shapes in the world around you.



### Easimaths / Mymaths

Your child will now have access to **easimaths**, as well as **mymaths**. On these websites, they will be able to complete maths activities and practise key maths skills at their level. Each child will be given their own login and password at parents' evening.

[www.rmeasimaths.com](http://www.rmeasimaths.com)

[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)

## Writing

We will be focusing on writing simple sentences correctly, with a capital letter and a full stop. Some children will begin using connectives such as 'and' and 'but' to extend their sentences, and use story language (Later, So, Then etc.) to create longer pieces of writing. We will work on forming letters correctly and reading back writing to check that it makes sense and that words have not been left out. Children will be given opportunities to write in different styles, such as story writing, report writing and lists. English lessons will mainly be based around our core texts, but writing will also be a part of many other lessons. You can support your child at home by providing them with opportunities to write for pleasure (e.g. make a story book, write a diary, send a card to a friend) and practising hand writing **for a few minutes** every day.



**If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of the Year 1 teaching team at the end of the day**

## We Want a 'Growth Mindset' School

What is it that many successful / high achieving people have in common? It's a Growth Mindset.

Children (and adults!) with a **growth mindset** believe that they can get better at something by practising. So when they're faced with a challenge, they become more and more determined to succeed, wanting to persevere and overcome knockbacks. They tend to feel as if they're in control, and are not threatened by hard work or failure.

Although no one likes failing, children with a **growth mindset** do not let failure define them; instead, they use setbacks to motivate them. Building a **growth mindset** helps children at school; making them more motivated, more engaged in the classroom and likely to receive higher marks and greater rewards from their work. See the Parents' Workshop page on our website for more information. Well worth a look!



**Are you missing out on your child benefitting from an additional £1300 worth of provision?** If you are in receipt of one or more of the benefits listed below, your child could benefit from £1300 of additional funding at school to assist with payment toward school trips, clubs and various school activities.

- **Income Support**
- **Income Based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit**
- **An income-related employment and support allowance**
- **Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **Child Tax Credit**, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) that as of 6 April 2010 does not exceed £16,190
- **Working Tax Credit** - during the four week period immediately after your employment ceased, or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week, your children (in YR3-6) are entitled to free school lunches
- **Universal Credit**

Simply apply online via the Redbridge website ([www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/free-school-meal-application](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/free-school-meal-application)). If you require further infor-

### Improving our virtual learning platform - dB Primary

In a drive to improve further opportunities for sharing, collaboration and communication between home and school, we are replacing Fronter (our current virtual learning platform) with 'dB Primary'. Staff and pupils are being introduced to it in October. After this, access will be given to parent and carers, and a number of parent workshops provided. We also see this as an excellent tool to improve the pupils' digital literacy and knowledge of online safety. To find out more about dB Primary visit: <https://www.dbprimary.com/products/db-primary>

## DIARY DATES

19th September	Year 1 Information Meeting 9.15am
21st September	Harvest Assemblies
22nd September	Jeans for Genes Day
26th & 27th September	Parent Consultation Evening— by appointment (details to follow)
26th & 27th September	Book Fair
10th October	Parent Coffee Afternoon 2.30pm
<b>20th October</b>	<b>Inset Day (school closed to all pupils)</b>
<b>23rd—27th October</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
30th October	All pupils return to school



There is a suggestion box in the foyer outside the school office. Your views and suggestions are important to us; we welcome and value your input and involvement in all aspects of the school