

Year One Newsletter

Spring 1 2025



Welcome back and a happy new year to all our wonderful Year 1 children and their families. We hope that you have had a relaxing break and enjoyed spending time with your loved ones. The children worked so hard last term and definitely deserved a well-earned rest! We are excited for another busy half term at Priory Rise and cannot wait to see your children continue to grow and flourish.

Home Learning



It has been fantastic to see how many children have been completing their Maths homework each week. We love seeing their passion for learning and excitement for home learning. Purple Mash homework is set each week on a Friday and due in for the following Friday, where a new piece will be set. Each week the Maths challenge that is set consolidates the learning that has taken place that week, so it really is important to encourage your child to engage with this please. Remember, the homework can be found in the 'to-dos' section and your child's log-in details can be found in the front of their red reading records. If you need any further support, please talk to your child's teacher.

We encourage you to hear your child read their phonics book daily, for between 10 and 15 minutes. By the end of the week your child should be a master of their book; they should be able to read with fluency and pace, which will help to develop automaticity. When you read with your child, please write what they have read and the date in their red reading record. **Please send your child's red reading record and phonics book into school every day so they are equipped for Guided Reading when it is their turn, as well as changing their book when necessary.**



Uniform Reminder

Please ensure that your child brings to school a warm winter coat. You are welcome to pack hats, scarves and gloves, however, please name each item clearly. To help support your child's independence with taking ownership over their belongings, please clearly put their name on the label of their clothes.

Healthy Snack

A gentle reminder that if you are providing a snack for your child to have during morning playtime, please ensure this is a piece of fruit, dried fruit or vegetables only. Please remember that we are a **nut-free** school as we have several children with significant and serious allergies.

Ways you can support your child's learning at home

Parents frequently ask how they can support their child's learning journey at home. Here are a few things you can do to help your child continue to succeed.

Maths and Maths Resources:

- Number formation – practice writing numbers. This can be done in lots of fun ways through drawing, painting, in sand, as well as colouring too.
- Developing confidence with number bonds to 10 and 20 as we move through the spring term.
- Practice subitising – saying how many they see without counting! We do this in most Maths lessons to support their fluency.

- Supporting children to complete their weekly Purple Mash tasks.
- Hey 20 you've got a lot of friend's song – YouTube
- Counting by 2's/5's/10's songs – YouTube
- 1 Minute Maths App (Whiterose) – Free App
- Numberblocks episodes – BBC iPlayer

Phonics and Reading:

- Practice the sounds and words sent home on the phonics take home cards. Asking your child to spot digraphs/trigraphs within words, as well as reading the tricky words.
- Read their phonics book with them daily, encouraging automaticity (reading words by sight as opposed to sound talk and blending).
- Read and listen to stories to enjoy together.
- Model reading with expression.
- Ask who/where/what/how/why questions to support your child's comprehension skills.
- Practice retelling stories that they have read or sharing stories or recommended reads (see below).
- If you need support with phonics resources, Little Wandle have a parent page on their website <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Writing and Writing Resources:

- Practice spelling and writing the words on the phonics take home cards and any phonics from phase 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- Practice letter formation.
- Writing for fun! Can the children write anything for you at home? This can be shopping lists, stories, letters, the list goes on.
- Asking children to use their segmenting fingers to spell words – in Year 1 these only need to be phonetically plausible.
- Phase 3 and 4 Tricky Word Songs – YouTube
- <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

We really do appreciate your ongoing support, thank you! 😊

Value of the Month

The Value of the month for January is 'Aspiration' and 'Equality' is the value for February.



Welcome to Miss Opoku

Miss Opoku has joined Jeffers class as a trainee teacher for this half-term only. This is part of the cross-phase element of the teacher training programme; she is gaining experience in Key Stage 1 having previously taught in Key Stage 2. We are very excited to have her part of the Year 1 team and she has already been welcomed with open arms and gorgeous hugs by not just Jeffers children, but all of the year 1 children and staff.

Year 1 Curriculum

Dive into the Ocean



During English, our learning will be based upon our theme 'Dive into the Ocean'. The children will learn all about the different animals and use their knowledge to write fact files and develop their descriptive writing. They will read stories and poems and write their own version of 'Tiddler' whilst raising awareness about how to look after our oceans. We

will also be exploring word classes and developing our understanding and use of suffixes and plurals.

In Geography the children will be learning all about the world around them, starting with the United Kingdom. They will develop their understanding of their location on a map and learn all about the capital cities before moving onto the 7 continents and their oceans.



Continuing our theme, in DT the children will be designing and creating their very own raft. They will investigate materials and decide which one is best to build a raft before designing, making and evaluating their very own! If you haven't already, please ensure your child brings to school three same sized plastic bottles, thank you!

In Maths, we will be exploring place value, addition and subtraction to 20, numbers within 50, length and height and mass and capacity.

This half term in Science we are exploring materials and their properties. By the end of the half term we will be able to identify a range of different materials and describe their properties using scientific vocabulary.

In Music, the children will continue to explore rhythm and pulse and explore a range of instruments.

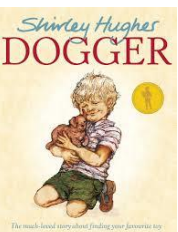
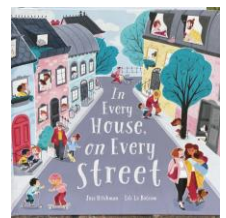
In RE we are learning all about rituals and religion. The children will discuss different rituals in different religions including Salat, Puja and The Holy Communion. If anyone has any experiences of these and would like to volunteer to come and talk to the children about your religion and the rituals you follow, we would love to invite you into school. Please email the Year 1 email address if you would like to volunteer.

In PSHE, we will be talking about dreams and goals and encouraging the children to set goals for themselves. We will be talking to them about how to plan to achieve these goals and share our goals for the future.

Recommended Reads

Mrs Reynolds recommends 'In Every House on Every Street' by Jess Hitchman because:

"This is a gorgeous and heartwarming celebration book that highlights the positives yet differences of our homes and what goes on inside them."

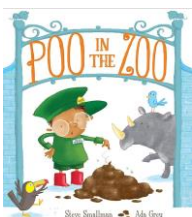
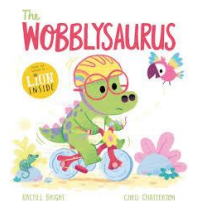


Mrs Kalek recommends 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes because:

"It is a timeless classic for reading aloud, full of simple words and detailed pictures. It tells a heart-warming story of a treasured, lost toy while lovingly showing details of everyday life."

Mrs Fox recommends 'Wobblysauros' by Rachel Bright because:

"Its an empowering story with a reassuring reminder that everyone starts off wobbly when trying something new. It shows the importance of perseverance and resilience and being proud of your personal achievements."



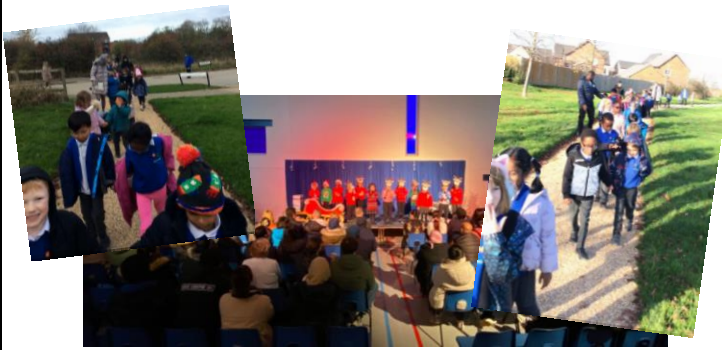
Miss Holman recommends 'Poo in the Zoo' by Steve Smallman because:

"It is a fun and exciting book that teaches children about animals in a humorous way!"

Enrichment in Autumn 2

Dates for your Diary

Year 1 children absolutely loved their visit to the local co-op shop when learning about Human Features in Geography. We spotted different types of houses on route and explored what the shop sold, finally making a purchase of biscuits which we enjoyed back in the classroom. Thank you again to our wonderful parent helpers that supported this experience. The children also loved celebrating Diwali, dressing up for Children in Need and making porridge to link to the traditional tale, Goldilocks and the Three Bears. And finally, a highlight for our children was performing Ralph the Reindeer to all the parents. We are so proud of their commitment to learning the songs, actions and for some children, their lines. Absolute superstars!



Wednesday 29th January

Chinese New Year – dress down day

Monday 3rd February

Parks Trust Water Safety Talk – in school

Friday 7th February

Children's Mental Health Week – wear a yellow accessory

Tuesday 11th February

Class photos – more information on this to follow

Tuesday 11th and Thursday 13th February

Parents Evening consultations – more information on this to follow

Friday 14th February

Last day of term

Monday 24th February

Children return to school

And finally...

We have got such an exciting, action-packed half term ahead of us! We continue to look forward to working in partnership with you to help support your child's learning journey. Thank you for all of your continued support.



*teacher
+
parent*

*a child's
STRONGEST
advocate*

Robson's Class