

Year 1

Autumn Term Newsletter

English: We will begin the term by reading a range of stories with a familiar setting. Some texts contain repetitive phrases which encourage the children to join in during shared reading. At the end of some English units, the children will write a retell of a story, having retold it verbally and with actions. Towards the end of the term, the children will explore non-fiction styles of writing such as labels, lists, captions and instructional writing.

Maths: This term the children will begin by sorting objects and counting objects accurately. They will begin to recognise numbers as words and learn to count on from any number. The children will recap counting backwards and identify one more and one less than a given number. The children will learn to compare groups of objects using the words 'more', 'fewer' and 'least'. They will learn to add and subtract within twenty, using a number line and practical objects. They will learn to recognise and name 3-D shapes as well as sort them and create patterns using them.

Geography: This term, the children will be learning about their local area and will explore their immediate environment using maps and aerial photographs. The children will begin to understand how a simple map is used and where their school is, in relation to their home and other notable landmarks in Datchet. The children will also create their own maps of their classroom and observe the landmarks of Datchet.

History: This term, the children will learn that 'History' is the story of the past. They will learn that people who learn about the past are called 'historians'. With some support, they will explore the past using sources of information such as fact files and photographs. The children will think about their own past in the form of their family tree.

PSHE: This term, the children will be learning how they can make themselves and others feel happy and safe. The children will also discuss the differences between themselves and celebrate their 'uniqueness'.

RE: This term, the children will learn about the Christian 'Creation story'. They will learn about the key events within the story and will be able to retell it using key vocabulary. They will begin to understand that some Christians believe different things about creation. Later on, drawing from their knowledge from Foundation Stage, they will talk about the key events from the Christmas story in more detail. They will find out about how Christmas is celebrated today and begin to consider which traditions are secular and which are religious.

Science: This term, the children will be learning about animals and their needs. They will learn about the different animal groups: reptiles, birds, amphibians, mammals and fish. The children will compare the animals that belong to each group and identify which group they belong in. They will also learn about the differences between carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.



Upcoming Events

Thursday 25th September: Phonics meeting for parents at 3:00

Tuesday 14th October: Parents Evening

Thursday 16th October: Parents Evening

Friday 24th October 2025: Autumn 1 term ends.

Monday 3rd November: INSET

Tuesday 4th November: Autumn 2 term begins.

Friday 19th December: Autumn 2 terms ends.

Monday 5th January: INSET

Tuesday 6th January: Spring 1 term starts.

Art: This term, we will be exploring colour! We will be looking at the works of Mondrian, Van Gogh, Vermeer and Monet. The children will learn about primary and secondary colours and will explore mixing colours together. The children will learn about making tints and shades, as well as learning about different brush techniques. They will look at the work of artists to see how they used colour to evoke emotion.

DT: This term, the children will be learning how to create a moving picture by making their own sliding and pivot mechanism. They will have the opportunity to explore moving pictures in pop-up books and begin to understand how these simple mechanisms work. They will then design their own moving picture and make it.

Computing: This term, the children will be learning how to log on to our computers and open specific programs. They will also learn how to control a mouse and to type in a word document. They will have a go at creating their own digital content.

PE: This term, the children will be developing their ability to change speed and height when travelling in different ways. They will learn to throw and catch and work as a team. The children will also learn specific gymnastic balances and learn to use the equipment safely. They will learn a simple sequence of movements and perform these to their peers.

Music: This term, the children will listen to a range of music and share their likes and dislikes with their peers. They will also sing as a class and explore performing for their peers. They will also experiment with percussive instruments and copy repetitive beats and phrases in pieces of music.

Reminders

Our PE days are Thursday and Friday. Please make sure that your child comes to school in their PE kit. When possible, we will do PE outside so please ensure they bring their school jumper or PE sweatshirt to school.

The children have access to drinking water in the classroom, but it is preferable for them to have a water bottle.

The door to the classroom will be opened at 08:45 and will close promptly at 08:50. If the classroom door is closed, please take your child to the office, so as to minimise distraction in the classroom.

If your child is having a school dinner, please help them to choose what they are having.

Homework is handed out on a Friday and due back in on the following Wednesday.

Reading books are also handed out on a Friday. Your child will have this same book for a week and their reading is assessed weekly. If your child can confidently read their ELS book, they will be issued a new one.

Year 1's library day is Tuesday. Please make sure their library book is in their book bag so it can be changed weekly.