

Year 1 Newsletter

Term 1 2024



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Greenhithe School for 2024! If you are new to the school, we extend a special welcome to you and your family.

The Year 1 Team

Fran Morrison	Year 1	Room 4 (Year 1 Team Leader)
A-J Philip	Year 1	Room 3
Amy Hooper	Year 1	Room 2
Sacha Walsh	Year 1	Room 1

Curriculum



Writing

The Year 1s are learning the skills needed to become successful writers. These include; learning to hold their pencil correctly, learning correct letter formation, planning their writing, making an attempt to spell words independently, beginning to use full stops and capital letters appropriately, and composing interesting sentences to describe events or to describe characters. You can help by encouraging your child to talk about stories, events or outings, in a sequential and organised way. This term the children will be participating in many learning activities based around knowledge of sounds, development of vocabulary, and grammar. This will help with the spelling of words.



Reading

The Year 1 Reading programme will begin officially in week 2 with reading books going home from week 3. The teachers read daily with groups of children and your child will then bring his/her book home to reread with you. Please make time to listen and encourage your child by asking questions about the plot or the characters. Help them to work out tricky words by using the pictures or the context of the story. Your child will bring a reading log home. It is helpful if you make comments about their reading whenever possible, e.g. enjoyed the story; commented on the characters; liked the illustrations, etc. Please ensure your child brings their book bag to school every day. This helps protect the books. Teachers will not allow books to go home if the previous book hasn't been returned or if your child doesn't have a book bag.



Phonics

The Year 1 Phonics programme starts with the consonant and short vowel sounds and then progress to diagraphs (ch, sh, th etc). The children will be learning the name of the letter, the sound the letter makes and words that start with that sound. Once they have mastered this first group of sounds they start to blend these sounds together to read and write three and four letter words. We regularly assess the children and group them according to their knowledge.



Inquiry

Throughout the year we will explore a variety of topics from the Science, Social Science and Technology curriculum areas. We hope to have trips that connect to some of these focus areas and often have visitors to the school to help explore these topics more fully.



Maths

Regular practice of number identification to 10, 20 then 100 and the number that comes before and after to these numbers. This will be followed by simple addition and subtraction, first to 10 and then to 20. This is something you can do with your child at home. Please help and encourage your child to spend 5-10 minutes daily on these. Having instant recall of basic facts helps students to solve number problems more efficiently. We will also be conducting statistical investigations; collecting data, creating graphs. In addition to this the students will be learning about shape and how to measure length. We also encourage children to use Mathseeds to support their learning, this will be up and running in the next couple of weeks. Please ask your child's teacher if you have any questions.



Swimming

All children will need to bring named togs and towels in a separate bag. Please ensure that all of your child's items of clothing are clearly named. Teachers will advise you of their swimming days.



Fitness and Physical Education

We run structured developmental fitness that helps children develop their balance, coordination and gross motor skills. We also explore movement to music on Fridays. Each term will have a different physical education topic that builds on the skills that we are developing through our structured fitness activities.

Communication

All communication that needs action during school hours please contact the office, for example if you need to collect your child early. Reminders will be sent out on Seesaw but all other notices will be via email or you will be sent a hard copy.

We look forward to working in partnership with you this year.

Warm regards,

Year 1 Teachers