



# KEY STAGE 1 NEWSLETTER

## Happy New Year!

Welcome back everyone! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to what 2024 has in store. We are so excited to see what amazing things the children in KS1 are going to achieve this year.

### Key dates

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January- UK Day. Children to come dressed to represent one of the 4 countries in the UK  
 Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January- Year 1 live Phonics lesson at 9am (parents all invited)  
 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February- Year 2 live reading lesson at 9am (parents all invited)  
 Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – 1pm Local Visit to Sutton centre.  
 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March- British Tea Party

Please keep an eye on the school weekly newsletter that is posted on Class Dojo to keep up to date with any extra important dates for this term.

### Reading

Reading is paramount to our children's education and therefore is a big part of our daily learning. We ask that children bring reading books and organisers **EVERYDAY** to school. We ask that, if possible, you read with your child each night with the aim of getting **5 home reads** recorded in their diary each week. For any children who do not appear to be reading at home, we will contact yourselves to see how we can support with this to ensure that it happens as much as possible for the children.

If you have any questions about how to support your child reading at home, then please do get in contact with your child's class teacher.

A reminder that we would love for you to join us for 'Rise and Read' reading every Friday. This is where you can come into your child's class from 8:30 and spend time sharing a book.



### Curriculum Enquiry

Our knowledge-based curriculum will involve the children studying a geography-based enquiry question this term, with our DT lessons enhancing this. The children will investigate the question, 'What makes the UK unique?'



This geography topic will include looking at the 4 different countries that make up the UK and all the interesting human and physical geological features that can be found in each. We will also be looking at the different types of settlements there are. Once we have explored the UK, we will be comparing it to Cape Town and then debating the best place to live.

Our learning design technology enhancer will be focusing on food technology and the different food that can be found in the UK. We will be learning how to cook traditional British dishes and we will understand how to do this safely.

### English



#### Year 1/2

The English topics (which will usually link closely with our curriculum enquiry) are as follows:

- Narrative
- Letter
- Leaflet
- Poetry

Through these genres, we will be focusing on handwriting, expanding our vocabulary, and we will be covering a range of grammar and punctuation skills, such as expanded noun phrases, using a range of suffixes and using conjunctions. These topics will also provide the children with an opportunity to consider this term's enquiry question: 'What makes the UK unique?'

### Mathematics



This term, we will be learning:

- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division
- Length and height

### Science



In Science, children will learn about animals including humans. They will name and label body parts and senses, know animals (including humans) grow, and understand basic needs and healthy choices. They will identify animal groups and what they eat. Through Forest School, they will observe seasonal changes, weather and day length.

**Physical Education**

During this term the children will be working on skills needed for gymnastics. We will be looking at how to do a range of balances and movements to transition around a space.



As a continued safety measure, it would be great if your child could attend school in their PE kit for both of their PE days. As **no jewellery** should be worn during PE, it would be best that if on these days all jewellery is left at home.

**Religious Education**

Religious education in Autumn will be focusing on Christianity and Judaism. The children will explore different Christian parables and begin to understand what lessons can be learned from them. We will look at the differences between the Bible and the Torah scroll, and the lessons these two faiths take from similar stories. The children will consider how we can show we belong to something like Christians show they belong to their faith.

**Learning for Life**

Our learning for life lesson this term are focused on belonging, emotions and keeping our bodies healthy. We will be looking at different groups we can belong to. We will be thinking about the different emotions we have and how we can spot these in others. Finally we will look at how to keep our body safe from harmful products.

**Music**

This term we will be spending a lot of time listening to and appreciating music. We will explore new vocabulary that we can then use to describe music we listen to. We will use this new vocabulary to help form our own opinions when listening to new and familiar music.

**Computing**

In computing, the children will be learning all about how to search affectively online. Part of this will involve the learning ESafety – the risks if you do not search affectively online and knowing how to keep yourself safe. The children will showcase their understanding of how to search online by creating a leaflet to explain how to do this. Finally, the children will apply their learning to create another leaflet linking to their enquiry question: what makes the UK unique?

**Forest School**

We are fortunate enough to be going to Forest School this term, unfortunately due to the number of children in Key Stage One we are unable to go all together. Therefore, each class will go on a 3 week rotation. We will be going on a **Friday afternoon** and teacher will post on Dojo in the week before your child's Friday session.

**Forest School Kit:** The children will need to come to school on their day wearing their Forest School clothes and they will return home wearing their Forest School clothes. Your child will be provided with waterproof clothing from school. Please feel free to provide your child with their own waterproof clothing if you wish. We will be attending Forest School whatever the weather! All children must bring in a pair of wellies to stay in school. If you need any more information about what your child should wear, please ask a

member of staff. Again, please see the Dojo message regarding when Year 1 / 2 will be attending Forest School.

**Home learning**

We will set this each week on a Monday. Children will be sent home with a new sheet to complete in their homework book which will alternate between English and Maths. We will mark this each Monday so please ensure it is returned back to school.

**Class Dojo**

As a school, we continue to utilise Class Dojo as an amazing tool for communicating with home and school and supporting your children's learning. Whilst we aim to reply to messages as soon as we can, this is not always possible. Please be mindful that staff have their families to go home to and spend time with and will not be expected to reply or check messages outside of working hours which are between 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday-Friday.

If something is particularly important, please contact the school office, as staff may not check our messages until the children have gone home due to teaching commitments. Thank you for your continued support in using Dojo to support our children's learning

**Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and we look forward to the exciting term ahead.**  
The Key Stage 1 Team