



Year 1 Spring Term



Dear parents and carers

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to the events of 2026.

This term we will continue to work hard to ensure the children make the best possible progress. Our trip this term will be to the Benwell library, Turtles will visit on Monday 26th January and Pandas will visit on Friday 30th January.

We are all working hard in preparation for the year one phonic screen which takes place in June. Over this term we will be sending you information to help your child prepare at home.

If you have any queries, please speak to your class teacher, Miss Penaluna (Turtles) and Mrs Watson (Pandas).

REMINDERS

Start of the day - Please arrive on time for the doors opening at 8.40am for a 8.50am start. At this time we will be doing handwriting activities then splitting into our phonic groups. It is very important that children do not miss these sessions.

End of the day - School finishes at 3.10pm, please be prompt when collecting your child and we will do our best to ensure they are ready on time. Children in year 1 must be collected by someone over 16.

Uniforms and Coats - All children must wear school uniform at all times. Please make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. As the weather is getting colder please ensure your child has a coat in school everyday.

Reading - Reading folders need to be in school everyday. **We ask that each child reads some of their book every night at home and this is recorded in their yellow reading record.** Reading is an important part of the curriculum and therefore we encourage you to spend time reading with your child. Please also practice sounds on the phonic sheet, common exception words on the bookmarks and any additional books sent home. All information can be found in their homework pack. Remember little and often is best!

PE - Every Thursday we have our PE lesson. P.E. kits are provided in school which they change into for each lesson. **Children need to bring in their own trainers to wear for these lessons.**

Homework - Children will receive homework and spellings on a Friday. Homework books to be returned on a Thursday, spelling challenge will be on a Friday. A list of spellings the children are working on from reception and year 1 can be found in their homework pack.

Toys and school equipment: We discourage children bringing toys in from home as it can cause distress and disagreements. **For health and safety reasons, please do not allow your children to play on or get out any of the school equipment before and after school.**

This is what we're doing this term!

English	This term our English and topic work will be based on famous people. In English we will be reading non fiction texts about the king and the kings pants by Nicolas Allan. The children will also develop their story writing skills using a range of conjunctions and adjectives along with capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. The children will continue to have a RWI lesson each day where they develop confidence using phonics and fluency by reading the RWI books
Mathematics	This term's Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRF) will be: Know number bonds to 10. Know near doubles to 5. We are also focussing on addition and subtraction along with place value and measures. We will be working on word problems and reasoning using addition and subtraction and place value to 20. The children will be learning about measures through practical work and written work to do with capacity, weights, lengths and heights.
Science	In science we will continue to develop an understanding of the world. The children will be encouraged to be curious and ask questions about what they notice in the world around them and use question stems to help them ask and answer questions. We will also look at materials and carry out scientific investigations.
Computing	The children will have the opportunity develop their basic computing skills further. We will be learning about and using algorithms and coding using Scratch Junior and Beebots.
Geography	This term the children will be learning about our local area and where they live. We will also learn about the United Kingdom, the 4 countries and their capital cities. We will compare the landscape of Newcastle and London.
History	We will be looking at the life of King Charles III. We will begin to understand the idea of significance and we will be talking about people who may be significant in their lives, in school and in our country.
DT	In DT we will create a moving object using levers, pulleys and wheels linked to our History topic about the king.
Music	Music is run by In Harmony and the children will be learning about rhythms and patterns. We will also have a weekly singing session with Mrs Sinclair.
P.E / Commando Joes	In PE we are focussing on ball skills. During our sessions the children will be learning to throw, catch, roll, bounce and play simple ball games in small groups or pairs. This term the children will be taking part in Commando Joe session on a Friday afternoon working with a Newcastle United Foundation coach to develop personal skills such as resilience, team work, positivity, empathy, self awareness and communication by completing fun physical missions.