

Year 1 Newsletter – Autumn 2 2025

Welcome

Welcome back year 1. I hope you have had a very restful break. I would like to start with saying thank you to the parents and carers who came to the parents welcome meeting and to our poetry morning, they were a great success. This term will be very busy with the lead up to Christmas productions and craft sessions. We also have our trip to Hamerton Zoo this term which is very exciting. I am really looking forward to the learning opportunities ahead.

Miss Moorhouse

Phonics and Reading



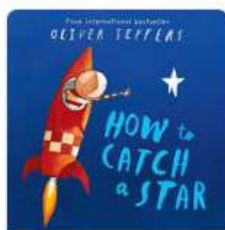
Our Phonics scheme is Little Wandle Phonics.

Your child will continue to receive two books this term: a fully decodable book that closely matches the phonemes (sounds) that have recently been taught in school, and that has been read in school during reading lessons, and a 'reading for pleasure' book. Your child is free to change their reading for pleasure book at any point in the school day.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND READING BOOKS AND RECORDS IN TO SCHOOL DAILY IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THEIR DAILY READING PRACTICE.

Also, please record in your child's reading record every time you hear your child read at home. Your child is rewarded with Dojo points for home reading.

Recommended reads: author – Oliver Jeffers



Writing

This term we will be continuing to focus on:

- Correct letter formation using our new scheme Happy Handwriting



- Saying and writing simple sentences and recording words using phonic knowledge
- Learn to spell 'tricky' words (linked to the phonics scheme) and Year 1 common exception words
- Learning how to write texts that explain and write stories

Writing units are based on the following texts:

- Three little pigs
- Three little wolves and the big bad wolves
- The three little pigs and the big bad book

Maths Unit:

This term in maths we are looking at numbers within 20. Being able to subtract and add numbers within 20 and recognise all numbers to 20.

We will also be looking at time. The children will be practising telling the time to half past and o'clock.



The children will also continue to practise number formation and recognition.

Science Unit: Animals and Their Needs



Lesson Sequencing:

Lesson one will explore common animals, describing and naming them. Lesson two will build on the knowledge learnt in lesson one by looking at how scientists group animals according to their features. In lesson three, children will learn that another way to group animals is based on what they eat. Lesson four will explore the needs of animals in the context of pets. Lesson five will tie together learning so far in the unit, children will be able to describe an animal using scientific words and diagrams. In the assessment lesson, children will demonstrate their knowledge through a sorting task, a written information text task or by answering multiple questions about animals with short responses.

Working Scientifically criteria met in this unit:

- Using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions
- Identifying and classifying

Computing**Teach computing.**

We are Exploring the world of digital art and its exciting range of creative tools. Children will have an opportunity to create their own paintings, whilst being inspired by a range of other artists. They will conclude by considering their preferences when painting with and without the use of digital devices.

**Art & Design unit: line**

This unit introduces children to the element of line. It presents the idea that lines are like basic tools for artists and explores Klee's influential statements describing lines. The lessons explore vocabulary for describing different kinds of lines and children will practise using these to create pictures, working directly from instructions and using their imagination. They investigate the work of Miro, Bratescu and Klee which show how lines can be used to show different things, ranging from simple shapes and objects to representing dreams and music. They look at how artists can use different materials to make lines, not only using pencils, pens and paint but using 3D media, such as wire and string. They will then produce their own work using mixed media. Looking at huge paintings by Miro affords the opportunity to address the idea of scale and the children work as a group to produce a large piece of work.

**Design Technology: Cook- Jam Tarts / Mince Pies****Cooking and Nutrition**

As part of their work with food, pupils will be taught how to cook and apply the principles of nutrition and healthy eating. Instilling a love of cooking in pupils will also open a door to one of the great expressions of human creativity. Learning how to cook is a crucial life skill that enables pupils to feed themselves well and others affordably, now and in later life.

In Key Stage 1 pupils should be taught to:

- Use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes

History: Discovering History



Lesson Sequencing:

The sequence of lessons in this unit has been designed to provide a platform for children to develop their historical consciousness. Lesson 1 begins by emphasising that history is the story of the past, and that people who study the past are called historians. Lesson 2 introduces the substantive concept of ancestry through using family trees which highlight who lived in the past. In this lesson, children will also be introduced to the Royal family tree which will provide some prior knowledge for their next unit about Kings and Queens. This will begin their understanding of the importance of the monarchy. Lesson 3 focuses on historical sources and how these sources help us to understand the past. In this lesson, the children learn about Mary Seacole from looking at a range of sources. This unit begins to introduce the pupils to disciplinary concept of historical significance (what is important from our past that we should learn about today). Lesson 4 introduces pupils to the role of archaeologists. They will learn that archaeologists study the things left behind by the people who lived before us. They will look at real archaeological findings, such as Must Farm, which will be looked at in more depth when the children study the Stone Age to the Iron Age in Y3. Lesson 5 introduces the pupils to the notion of local history – history of transport in Corby. Overall, as children progress through the unit and through the curriculum, they will begin to understand that history is a process of finding out what happened in the past and how these historic events have made the world the way it is today.

Music Unit: Samba

This unit introduces pupils to samba, which is a kind of music and dance from Brazil that is performed in street carnival celebrations. It is recognised as a symbol of Brazil and has its roots in African religious traditions, particularly of Congo.



PE

PE will continue to take place on Mondays and Thursdays outdoors and indoors, so please remember to send your child to school dressed in PE kit on those days. Children may stay in PE kit all day. Long hair to be tied up and no jewellery please. Thank you.

Topics taught this term:

Gymnastics

Dance



PSHE Unit: Celebrating Difference



Lesson sequence:



RE Unit: Christianity

Children will answer questions such as what gifts might Christians in my town have given Jesus if he had been born here rather than in Bethlehem?

They will be able to retell the story of Christmas and to be able to talk about the feelings of giving and receiving meaningful gifts.

Theme: Incarnation, God the Son as continued introduction to the Trinity.



Enrichment

Visit to Hamerton Zoo to support understanding of Science Unit: Animals and their Needs.



Homework Project



At the end of every term, a selection of homework projects will be sent home for your child to complete. They may select any of the projects set. Projects will be linked to the learning that will take place in the following term. 5 dojos will be presented on completion of a project. THIS IS NOT COMPULSORY.

Weekly homework:



- Read school reading book at least x3 weekly. Please record that your child has read in their reading record, as we collate, and record all reads every Friday and award Dojo points for home reading.

READING BOOKS MUST BE SENT IN TO SCHOOL DAILY IN ORDER FOR YOUR CHILD TO COMPLETE THEIR DAILY READING PRACTICE.

- Spellings - linked to phonics or spelling pattern taught during the week. There will be a weekly spelling test linked to spellings sent home. Spellings are set on spelling shed every Monday your login is in your child’s reading record. Please check they have now all been placed inside the reading record.
- Complete number bond practice on Numbots your child’s login is inside their reading records.



Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



Rewards

The children will receive ‘Dojo Points’ as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be ‘spent’ on prizes periodically.





Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Moorhouse

Teaching Assistants: Miss Stocker and Miss McKillop

Please remember to name your child’s school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day as this aids brain function.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



Dates for the diary!

Monday 3rd November – School reopens for pupils

Monday 10th to Friday 14th November – Anti-bullying week

Wednesday 12th November – KS1 reading drop in

Friday 21st November – Children in Need

Tuesday 25th November 2025- Hammerton Zoo trip

Tuesday 9th December – KS1 Nativity 9.30am, & 2.30pm

Thursday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 11th December - Christmas dinner

Thursday 18th December – Class Christmas parties & Santa visit

DATES AND TIMINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE