

Year 1 Newsletter – Autumn 1 2026

Welcome to year 1! We are sending out our Autumn term 1 newsletter early during our transition day, so you have information about your child's new class ahead of the summer break. A copy of the newsletter will be sent out as normal via Arbor after the summer holidays. We hope you have a lovely summer break and look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Welcome

Welcome to Jeffers class! We have had a wonderful transition morning, which I hope has left your child as excited as we are for September!

I am really looking forward to working with your child this year and getting to know them as part of our class. Miss Dixon will be working with us in the classroom as our Teaching Assistant throughout the week. On Mondays, Miss Kamel will lead the class.

We have lots of exciting learning opportunities to look forward to in the Autumn term. I have put together some information that will be useful for you and will enable you to support your child's education.

I look forward to meeting you, in person, at our Year 1 Parent Meeting on 9th September.

Drop-off and Collection

Morning Drop-Off:

Children in Year 1 should be dropped off on the Key Stage 1 playground, where staff will be present to welcome them. From there, your child will walk independently through the shelter and into school.

End of the Day Collection:

At the end of the school day, children will be brought out in a line onto the Key Stage 1 playground. The Year 1 class will line up closest to the shelter. A member of staff will dismiss each child individually.

To keep the area safe and organised, please wait on the opposite side of the playground.

We kindly ask that parents/ carers and siblings do not enter the shelter at any time, as it will already be set up for learning. **Arrangements remain the same in all weathers.**

At the end of the day, we will line up here, and I will dismiss each child one at a time.



In the morning, the Key Stage 1 staff will be here to greet your child.

We ask that parents/ siblings remain on this side of the playground.

Phonics and Reading

In reading, we will be continuing our phonics journey by learning new sounds which we will practise reading in words.

Phonics

Our Phonics scheme is Little Wandle Phonics. Your child will continue to have a daily thirty-minute phonics lesson every day accompanied by a further fifteen-minute keep -up where we will review taught sounds and words. This will be supplemented with a fifteen-minute reading lesson four times a week.

As a class, we will be fostering a positive attitude towards books through story time, our daily picture book study and visits to our school library.

Your child will receive two books this year: a phonic scheme book that closely matches their phoneme (sound) knowledge and a 'reading for pleasure' book. Please note, for the first week, your child will take home a 'reading for pleasure' book only as we will be completing assessments to ensure your child makes a strong start to their Year 1 reading journey.



Books will be changed every Thursday.

YOUR CHILD WILL RECEIVE A READING FOLDER WHICH WILL CONTAIN THEIR READING BOOK, READING FOR PLEASURE BOOK AND READING RECORD INSIDE. THEY MUST BRING THEIR FOLDER INTO SCHOOL EVERYDAY.

Recommended reads:

How to catch a star

Writing

In writing this term, we will begin by focusing on letter formation through sentence dictation. This will help children develop accuracy and confidence in forming letters correctly.



We will also have a weekly spelling lesson to support their developing phonics knowledge. Spellings will be sent home each week on a Monday for your child to practise.

Later in the term, we will move on to writing simple sentences. They will be encouraged to apply their phonics skills to help them spell words independently.

Maths Unit: Place value

In maths this term, we will begin by focusing on counting forwards and backwards within 10 to build a strong foundation in number. We will then move on to addition and subtraction within 10, helping your child to develop their understanding of simple calculations.



Later in the term, we will explore shape and pattern, encouraging your child to recognise, describe and create patterns.

Science Unit: The Human Body

In Science, your child will review their knowledge on the parts of the human body and learn about their functions. Later in the term we will study the eye in detail and work scientifically by exploring senses and experiencing how we use them.

Computing

This term, we will be familiarising ourselves with Purple Mash. Your child will learn how to log in to their accounts and create their own avatars. We will also learn how to open and save our work, helping to develop basic computer skills. Later in the term, we will use the paint tools to create our own digital pictures, encouraging creativity and confidence when using technology.

Art & Design Unit: Colour

This term, your child will be introduced to the element of colour. They will explore primary and secondary colours, as well as warm and cool colours, tints and shades, using inspiration from famous artists such as Mondrian, Van Gogh and Monet. Through a range of practical activities, your child will begin to develop their painting skills, including colour mixing and brush control, while building their confidence and creativity.

Geography Unit: Spatial Sense

This term, your child will be introduced to the basics of map skills. They will explore aerial views and begin to understand how maps represent the world around us. Your child will learn about physical and human features, recognise map symbols and keys, and use simple positional language and the four-point compass to describe locations. They will also explore simple routes around familiar places, helping them make links between real-life environments and maps.

Music Unit: Marching Music

This term, your child will be introduced to the concept of pulse (the steady beat of music) through listening, movement and marching activities. They will explore music by famous composers such as Mozart and Verdi, learning how the speed and style of music can affect how we feel.

Your child will also compare sounds made by different instruments and begin to create their own music using body percussion. They will learn the difference between beat and rhythm and work together to perform simple rhythmic patterns as a class.

PE:

PE will take place **on Mondays - indoors and Wednesday – outdoor**, please remember to send your child to school dressed in school PE kit on those days.

Children may stay in PE kit all day.

Appropriate footwear must be worn

Long hair needs to be tied up

No jewellery please.

PSHE Unit: Being Me In My World

This term your child will reflect on their feelings, including pride and reward, and begin to understand how their choices can have consequences. By the end of the unit, they will understand their role in helping to build a safe and supportive school community.

RE Unit: Christianity

Key question: What do Christians believe about God?



RE teaching is a 4-step process involving: engagement, investigation, evaluation, and expression.

Homework

Weekly homework:

- Read school reading book every day. Please record that your child has read in their reading record and the pages numbers, as we collate and record all reads every Friday.



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

Spelling Shed

- Spellings – A paper copy will be sent home every Monday. Children can collect more copies if they would like to throughout the week. Spellings can also be practised on Spelling Shed.
- Numbots

NUMBOTS

ALL USERNAMES AND PASSWORDS WILL BE STUCK INTO THE FRONT INSIDE COVER OF YOUR CHILD'S READING DIARY.

Homework Projects:

At the end of each term, a selection of homework project options will be sent home for your child to complete. Children may choose any of the projects and are welcome to complete one or more. All projects will be linked to the learning for the following term. Upon completion, children will receive 5 Dojo points, and their work will be proudly displayed in the classroom.

We will send projects out at the end of the first half term.



**RESPECT
Each Other**



**RESPECT
Our Environment
& Community**



**RESPECT
Yourself**

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
dojo 

Class information

Class Teacher: Miss Sullivan/ Miss Kamel (Mondays)

Teaching Assistant: Miss Dixon

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

We request that all children bring a named water bottle, appropriate coat and sun hat to school every day as the weather may still be warm.

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



Autumn 1

Tuesday 1st September - Teacher Training Day 1

Wednesday 2nd September - Teacher Training Day 2

Thursday 3rd September - School reopens for pupils

Wednesday 9th September – Year 1 Parent Welcome Meeting

Tuesday 6th October - Individual and sibling photos

Wednesday 14th October - Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 6.30pm

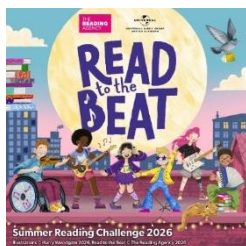
Thursday 15th October - Parents Consultation Evening 3pm – 5.30pm

Friday 23rd October - School closes to pupils for Half Term



Take part in the Summer Reading Challenge at Corby Library

At Hazel leys Academy we are promoting a love of reading this summer with the Corby library.



Please bring any certificates for completing the challenge into school to share in our Friday assemblies.