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September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back!

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break, and have had a good start to the new term.

It has been wonderful to see all the children settling into their new class so well - we are all very excited about the year ahead! Thank you so much for all your support with getting your children ready for the new school year and helping them when entering the classroom in the mornings. They are already very independent and ready to get on with lots of new learning!

Information

In Foundation Stage 2/Year 1 we aim to hear every child read every day; occasionally this may not always be possible due to school trips or other exciting opportunities throughout the year. Reading every day helps your child to make significant progress, therefore we ask that **you read with your child at home each day**. Once you have read with them, please note this in their yellow reading record. Your child should bring their yellow reading record and reading book to school each day.

Curriculum

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the topics we will be studying in **Foundation Stage** during the Autumn term:

Communication and Language (C&L)	Understand how to listen and why listening is important. Learn new vocabulary and use it through the day. Ask questions to find out more. Engage in storytimes.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	See themselves as a valuable individual. Build constructive and respectful relationships. Follow rules and understand why they are important.
Physical Development (PD)	Dance with specialist teacher Develop body strength, coordination, balance and agility. Develop fine motor skills to use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Use core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or on the floor.
Literacy (L)	Name writing. Read Write Inc Set 1 sounds. Learning to blend sounds into words. Form letters correctly. Mark making and learning to write words by segmenting sounds.
Mathematics (M)	Count objects, actions and sounds. Subitise (recognise how many there are without needing to count). Counting to and beyond 10. Learning to find one more or one fewer from a small group of objects. Recognising 2D shapes.
Understanding of the World (UoW)	Our local community – simple map work. People that help us in our community Exploring the UK Outdoor learning Humans and animals

Expressive Arts and Design (EAD)	Autumn Adventures – The children will investigate the changing season in their local environment and create a range of 2d and 3d artwork in response. They will look at the work of Andy Goldsworthy, David Hockney and Gustav Klimt. Harvest Festival – The children will explore food harvested locally. Looking at the work of the artist Arcimboldo they will then design and make a healthy snack in the form of a self-portrait! Winter Wonderland – We will look at a range of book illustrators and designers to provide inspiration for our very own moving picture book. Counting and animal songs, pulse, simple rhythms, composing with pictures (graphic scores), instruments of the orchestra.
French	Numbers Colours Greetings
Life Skills	Individual Liberty
Computing	To begin to predict what will happen for a short sequence of instructions and to use software/apps to create movement and patterns on a screen

Below are the topics we will be studying in **Year 1** during the Autumn Term:

Literacy	Fiction: Fairytales, moving on to changing a well-known fairytale. Non-fiction: Labels and captions, including correct punctuation; instructions; narrative recounts.
Numeracy	Number facts and calculations: Number recognitions, working with the numerals 1-100, using addition and subtraction, counting in 2s, 5s and tens. Geometry and measures: 2D and 3D shape recognition and properties.
Science	Animals including humans: identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals; identify carnivores, herbivores and omnivores; describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals; identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body Seasonal changes: observe changes across the seasons and the associated weather
History	Changes with living memory
Geography	The UK and Capital Cities: Focus on London.
Art/DT	Autumn Adventures – The children will investigate the changing season in their local environment and create a range of 2D and 3D artwork in response. They will look at the work of Andy Goldsworthy, David Hockney and Gustav Klimt. Harvest Festival – The children will explore food harvested locally. Looking at the work of the artist Arcimboldo they will then design and make a healthy snack in the form of a self-portrait! Winter Wonderland – We will look at a range of book illustrators and designers to provide inspiration for our very own moving picture book.
Religious Education	Creation/God: What makes people special? (Christianity). Incarnation: Why is Christmas important? (Christianity).
PSHE	Health and Self Care; New beginnings.
Music	Counting and animal songs, pulse, simple rhythms, composing with pictures (graphic scores), instruments of the orchestra.
PE	Throwing and Catching. Ball skills with feet.
Dance	Developing dance skills and etiquette.
Drama	Confidence and character building.
Outdoor Education	Rules, expectations, safety outside and teamwork.
French	Numbers, colours and greetings
Life Skills	Individual Liberty
Computing	Online Safety

What to bring and what to wear:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bring in	PE kit in named bag (Week 1) Outdoor Education stuff in named bag (Week 2)				Come into school wearing PE kit ready for Performing Arts
Take home	Return home in PE kit (Week 1) Return home in Outdoor Education kit (Week 2)				Return home in PE kit

Specialist Teachers

We are fortunate enough to have many specialist teachers across the school. Mrs Yendley will be teaching the children Art. This year, the children will have Music, Drama and Dance on a Friday morning, these sessions will be taught by Mr Morley, Carrie and Claire. They will be having PE sessions on Monday afternoons.

Outdoor Education: This will take place on alternate Monday afternoons. The dates are as follows: **22nd September, 6th October, 20th October, 3rd November, 17th November, 1st December and 15th December.** Please could you ensure that on the above dates your child has the following items in a separate, named bag: **wellies or outdoor shoes (weather dependent) a warm, waterproof coat, and gloves and a hat**, when necessary. Though they will not be changing, having these items in school will mean that the children can still go outside if the weather isn't perfect.

Water Bottles

Please send your child to school with a named bottle containing water which they will have access to throughout the day. This is especially important with the increased hygiene requirements within schools, as providing cups of water for the children is challenging. Please ensure the drink you are sending to school is water. We ask this because squash can be very sticky when spilt. Having water readily available also helps to support our Healthy Schools initiative. The children may have a separate drink of squash or similar (no fizzy drinks please) in their lunchbox. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Uniform

Thank you for returning your child to school looking so presentable. The smart appearance of our children is often noted by the public. Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled, especially jumpers. It is school policy that children should tie their hair up if it is long enough (shoulder length) due to health and safety requirements. We also request that children do not have any unnatural colours or extreme styles, i.e. no stripes or shapes cut into their hair. Please also note that only discreet hair accessories are permissible.

School Lunches

We would like to request that you try and order school lunches at home whenever you can. This helps the efficient running of the class, and also the children themselves. It is also nice for you to be able to see what your child is choosing for their lunch. Thank you so much for your help with this. In addition, the children benefit from government funding (as with universal free school meals) of snacks at morning break time. This is free fruit which we encourage children to try. They are also allowed to bring in a healthy snack in their lunchboxes which they can access at break time, although we would prefer that children have the school snack if possible. We encourage your healthy snacks to be something which does not come in a wrapper. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that our school is a **nut free environment** so no products containing nuts should be brought in with their packed lunches. This is imperative to keeping the children with allergies safe.

Parent Helpers

As it is the beginning of term, we are looking for volunteers to assist in the classroom (particularly with reading). If you think you could be of any help or have any information or resources that might support the children's learning this term, please let us know.

If you have any questions or concerns as the term continues my door is always open, so please do come and ask after school, or you are welcome to make an appointment with the office for longer conversations.

Many thanks,

Ivan Gutierrez
Class Teacher & EYFS/Year 1 Team Leader