

Parent Learning Information

Autumn Half Term 1 2026

y1

Reading Curriculum

As the children begin the new school year, they will consolidate their existing phonics knowledge before progressing to Phase 5 phonics.

During this phase, they will be introduced to new graphemes, including ay, ou, ie, ea and oy, while also learning alternative spellings for sounds they already know. For example, the /ay/ sound can be represented in different ways, such as ai (rain), ay (day) and a-e (cake).

Developing an understanding of these alternative spellings enables children to become more fluent readers and more confident, accurate writers. As they build on their phonics knowledge, they will be better equipped to decode unfamiliar words and apply their spelling skills across the wider curriculum.

To further develop reading fluency, the children will be introduced to additional common exception words, often referred to as 'red words'. These are words that do not always follow regular phonics patterns and therefore cannot always be decoded using phonics alone.

Through regular practice, the children will learn to recognise these words by sight, enabling them to read with greater accuracy, fluency and confidence.



Maths Curriculum



Throughout the first half term of Year 1, children will focus on numbers to ten, before furthering their knowledge into numbers to fifteen. They will explore representing, recognising, counting and begin adding and subtracting by one.

With our exciting approach to provision in Year 1, children will have access to a wide range of resources for them to explore during the Discover and Learn phases of our day, as well as working in small teacher-led groups and completing independent tasks throughout the week.

To ensure children continue to develop their fluency, they will end each day with a 'Maths Meeting', working on quick skills and improving children's recall and confidence.

To support your child at home with their number knowledge this half term, asking them questions such as "What is one more than?", "Can you count on from ___?", "What numbers can you see?"

Writing Curriculum

To begin the year, our writing will be based on the wonderful story Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers. This engaging text will inspire our learning and help develop the children's confidence and enjoyment in writing.

During Autumn 1, our main focus will be on developing the transcription skills that are essential for becoming successful writers. The children will practise using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops accurately, while also working hard to develop neat letter formation and handwriting.

We will introduce the key components of a simple sentence, including determiners, nouns and verbs. Much of our writing practice will be through dictated sentences, allowing the children to secure these fundamental skills and build confidence before moving on to composing their own ideas orally and, later, independently in writing.



Wider Curriculum Learning

Topic - History of Peterborough



To begin our journey in Year 1, the children will be exploring the history and geography of Peterborough, with a particular focus on our local area of Hampton. They will discover why Hampton is such a popular place to live and learn about the features that make our community unique.

Throughout the topic, the children will investigate how Peterborough has changed over time, comparing the past with the present. They will explore both human and physical geographical features, developing their understanding of how people and places have shaped the city we know today. This exciting topic will encourage the children to observe their surroundings, ask questions and develop a greater appreciation of the area they call home.

Performing Arts - Including Music

This term, Year 1 will be developing their confidence, creativity and performance skills in our Performing Arts Lessons.

They will explore singing, movement, rhythm and musciality while learning how to work together as an ensemble. We will be improving our dance technique alongside learning new key vocabulary in Music.

A big focus this term will be preparing for their new Nativity production in December, where the children will have the opportunity to learn songs, dances and acting parts, building towards a magical performance for families to enjoy.



PE

This term, the children will be developing their fundamental movement skills through a range of fun and engaging multi-skills activities.

They will work on skills such as running, jumping, throwing, catching, balancing and coordination, while learning how to use these skills in different games and challenges.

The children will also be re-introduced to a new and exciting game called Gaga Ball, developing their agility, reactions, teamwork and sportsmanship while having lots of fun.



Forest School



This half term in Forest School, the children will be exploring our three meadow areas and discovering the wonderful wildlife and natural habitats that make each one unique.

A key focus will be learning about our Forest School expectations. The children will develop an understanding of how to behave responsibly in this special environment, recognising that it is home to a wide variety of plants, insects and animals. Together, we will learn how to respect and care for nature while enjoying everything the outdoors has to offer.

Throughout the first half term, the children will have plenty of opportunities for child-led exploration, allowing them to investigate, ask questions, make discoveries and develop their curiosity about the natural world through hands-on experiences.



Art

The children will explore the parks, plants and wildlife found in their local area of Peterborough.

They develop observational drawing, painting, printing and collage skills, taking inspiration from artists including Eric Carle, Andy Goldsworthy and William Morris.

Children create colourful wildlife collages, explore natural textures and materials, and design artwork inspired by local habitats, developing an appreciation of the nature around them.



Homework Expectations!



This academic year, we are asking that your child reads to you at least 3 times per week. Please log this in their reading record, to ensure they earn stars towards their awards. The more frequently your child reads to you, or you read to them, the more they will reap the benefits!

Additionally, we will be updating our weekly newsletter with phonics news (including the new sound learned each week). Any additional phonics practice you can do at home with your child will be incredibly beneficial to their progress across the curriculum.

PE & Forest School Dates

Berlin	Paris	Madrid
PE - Monday & Tuesday	PE - Monday & Tuesday	PE - Monday & Wednesday
Forest School - Every other Thursday	Forest School - Every other Wednesday	Forest School - Every other Tuesday
1 st lesson: 10 th September	1 st lesson: 16 th September	1 st lesson: 15 th September

Key Dates - Upcoming Wow Days and Trips

In the Autumn Term, we have rescheduled the church visit that was originally planned for Reception, giving the children an opportunity to engage with their local community.

Building on their prior learning about Christianity, the visit will provide first-hand experiences that deepen their understanding of Christian beliefs and places of worship.

This visit will provide a strong foundation for future learning as the children continue to develop their understanding of a range of world religions throughout their school journey.

