



THERE'S NO FULL STOP TO LEARNING

Year 1 Newsletter – Summer Term 2 (2025-2026)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a wonderful half-term break. We can't believe we are in the last term of the school year. It has been a pleasure teaching the children and it will be very sad to see Year 1 go! We have been absolutely amazed by the progress they have made! Our new topic this term is 'Toys'. This topic will encourage the children to explore, investigate, create, and share their ideas through a range of fun activities such as comparing old and new toys, design their own toy and learn about toys from the past. Please see the attached curriculum topic squares for information about what the children will be learning this term. Jess Edwards will cover the class every Tuesday morning to deliver exciting Music and P.E lessons. P.E this term will be on Tuesday and Thursday, just a reminder to please ensure your child brings their P.E. kit to school, clearly named and in a named bag.

The children will have their Phonics Screening Check from Monday 8th June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026

This term Year 1 will be taking part in Relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education which is a statutory requirement for all primary schools. The scheme of work that will be covered in Year 1 is Growing up, Staying safe. Please see below for the scheme of work objectives that will be covered in each lesson:

Lesson 1 – Different friends: To learn how to be a kind and welcoming friend.

Lesson 2 – Growing and Changing: To understand how we grow and change, and the correct names for private parts of the body.

Lesson 3 – Body Safety (Online and Off): To understand that our private body parts are private online and offline.

Lesson 4 – Families and Care: To know that families can be different and to identify adults we can talk to when worried.

Also, during PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education) the children will take part in statutory Drug education lessons, below are the topic objectives that will be covered:

Lesson 1 – Safe or Unsafe: To discover how to avoid unsafe situations and to become aware common dangerous substances.

Lesson 2 – Visit to the chemist: To know more about medicines and to make links with their local community.

Lesson 3 – Who can help?: To know that sometimes they need help from a trusted adult and to recognise trusted adults.

These lessons help the children to develop important life skills such as understanding their feelings, building positive friendships, staying safe, and making healthy choices. Through engaging in discussions and activities, children grow in confidence, learn to respect others, and develop the skills they need to thrive both in school and in everyday life.

Please do not hesitate to approach me or contact me via email if you have any questions about the scheme or if you would like to view the planning for Relationships and Sex Education (RSE).

Reading

In Year 1, children will continue to be heard reading at least twice a week; once with a teacher as part of their **guided reading session** and once with a teaching assistant. Please try to hear your child read daily and use their reading journals as a place to record their responses to the stories that they read to you or their thoughts on stories that you read to them. This can be a short 10-minute session, but it will make a huge impact on their progress in literacy. Also, don't forget to continue to read a bedtime story to your child as this is another great opportunity for them to develop their language skills and a love for stories and reading. We will also continue to have our weekly parent reading mornings where you can stay and read with your child for the first 15 minutes of the school day. Parent reading morning will be every Friday at 8.45am. **Please make sure your child's reading journal is in their bag every day.**



P.E

P.E lessons will take place every **Tuesday** morning and **Thursday** morning (Outdoor). Our PE lesson on Thursday mornings will take place with a coach from Moving Matters. Please make sure that your child has the appropriate full P.E kit (including plimsolls or trainers) on both days.

School Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform. If your child is wearing earrings, please make sure that they are small studs only. Please check to make sure that **ALL** items of school uniform including P.E kits, bags and coats are clearly labelled to minimise loss and make it easier to locate if they become misplaced. Don't forget to have a look in the Infant lost property box if anything does go missing.

Home Learning

The children will have home learning activities to complete these are: Family Maths Scrapbook, Spellings and Topic-based project.

Family Maths Scrapbook: The family learning maths challenge will continue please complete **one** activity each week and record you child's answers in the Family Maths Scrapbook. These challenges should be completed and returned to school every Wednesday.

Spellings: Every Friday, the children will also be given a set of spellings that they need to learn at home for the week. We will have our informal spelling challenges in class on the following Friday. This will give the children the chance to learn and practise some of the key spelling patterns they need to be confident in by the time they leave Year 1.

Topic-based project: This terms project will be based on the theme of 'Toys'. This homework project gives the children a chance to practise and perfect skills that they are learning in the classroom and to further explore their class topic independently. Please encourage and support your children when completing their project.

Year 1 – Homework project

Toys

Our next topic will be focused on looking at the different toys that children have played with over time. Here are some ideas that you could do for your project:

- Research your favourite toy
- Create a picture or painting of your favourite toy
- Design a toy
- Research a toy inventor
- Compare toys from around the world



Remember, your project doesn't have to just be written! Be creative and try your best!

Due date: Week beginning – Monday 13th July 2026

Dates for your diary

Friday 5th June 2026 - Own clothes day (Bring a teddy or £1 for the Reay Summer Fair)

W/C Monday 8th June 2026 – Year 1 Phonics Screening

Wednesday 17th June 2026 – Year 1 Minet Library Visit

Friday 19th June 2026 – Own clothes day (Bring a cake or £1 for the Reay Summer Fair)

Saturday 20th June 2026 – Reay Summer Fair (12pm-3pm)

Monday 22nd June 2026 – Garden Museum Trip

Friday 3rd July 2026 – Sports Day

Friday 17th July 2026 – Last Day of Term: School finishes at 1.15pm



We are looking forward to a fun and exciting half term of learning.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Jade Edwards-Alvaranga and the Year 1 Team

Phonics Information

Phonics Screening Check

The Phonic Screening Check is a test which is taken to determine your child's phonics knowledge and to help the teacher to continue to support their learning. It will take place **from Monday 8th June 2026 – Friday 12th June 2026**.

What happens during the Phonics Screening?

- The test contains 40 words. Some of these words are real words and some are pseudo words known as 'alien words' (See image below).
- Children will be prepared for the fact that some of the words will not be real words and these words are identifiable during the test by having a small image of an alien next to them. These 'non-words' are important because all children will need to use their **decoding skills** to read them as they will have not been learnt by sight.
- The test will take around 10 minutes per child, although children are allowed to work at their own pace and there is no time limit. If your child is struggling, the teacher can stop the check. Each child will sit one-to-one with their teacher and will be asked to read the 40 words out loud.

Practice Sheet Real Words

in

Practice Sheet Pseudo Words

ot



How can I help my child at home?

- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.
- Encourage and praise your child.
- When you listen to your child read, allow them time to attempt to decode unfamiliar words themselves, before stepping in to help them.
- If you find your child is struggling to decode a word, you can help by pointing out the sounds in a word. For example, the word 'keep' would be 'k-ee-p' and 'light' would be 'l-igh-t'. Then encourage them to blend the sounds.
- When you listen to your child read, pick out a word from the book and ask them to say which graphemes (letters) are making a certain phoneme (sound). For example, the 'ee' sound (phoneme) in 'reaching' is represented by the letters (grapheme) 'ea'.
- Bug Club Phonics is a great way to support your child to learn the letter sounds and read words. Each child should have a login, if you need a login let me know. Here is the website link for Bug Club:
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0>
- You can learn how each letter sound is pronounced by watching Mr Bates Creates. Here is the website link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mylrdbQp1PA> – It is called 'Bug Club Phonics | Phase 5 | 13-21 | LEARN PHONICS with ACTIONS & SOUNDS | Mr Bates Creates'

