

YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER SPRING TERM 2025

Tuesday, 07/01/2025
16:00To Prime Parents of:  EMAIL

YEAR 1 CLASS NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a restful festive period. We are very excited to begin a new term with the children and have an exciting term ahead.

Our daily routine remains the same as last term. Miss Jones will teach the class on a Monday and Mrs Keast will teach the rest of the week. Mrs Ince will be supporting the class Monday-Thursday and Mrs Elworthy is with us on a Friday for the first half of the term. Mrs Roberts will be absent for this whole term whilst she continues her training at another school. We all look forward to welcoming her back after the Easter break when she re-joins us for the Summer term.

Children will have PE on a Wednesday afternoon and during Thursday lunch time. They should wear black joggers or shorts, a white t-shirt and a school hoodie or sweatshirt for PE. It would be ideal if the children had black trainers or shoes that they can run in each day, as we try to use the school running track on a daily basis.

Children should have book bags that can be put away easily in their trays and will continue to need a coat every day as we endure the great British winter! Please also remember to send a named drinks bottle daily. Lunches can now be ordered up until 8am each morning.

This term, we have a few key events taking place. We plan to visit Exmoor Zoo on Thursday 20th March. This will link with our Science learning about animals and how they are classified. The children will get to meet some animals and also learn from the Zoo staff about animal features and classification. A letter will be sent out shortly with more information. We also have World Book Day on the 6th March this term and also a whole-school Science Day planned on the 23rd January.

In English, we will be learning through Curious Quests. This follows on from Drawing Club and the children all love this part of our day. The lessons involve drawing, storytelling and inventing but also include a structured weekly flow with specific tasks and objectives, such as vocabulary building, comprehension, and creative writing. The children will be focusing on the following texts and animations this first half term: The Train Ride, Snow White, Bagguss, Hidden World: Ocean, The Gingerbread Man, Fraggie Rock. Then after the half-term break: I Love Bugs, Cinderella, The Snail and the Whale, Dogger, Goldilocks, The Raccoons.

We will continue with Little Wandle, a daily phonics teaching programme. We will email the sounds and tricky words for the week for the children to practise at home. Children need to be confident with their rapid recall of the tricky words and be able to spell them correctly in their writing. If you could help reinforce these at home, it will have a significant impact on your child's confidence to write and read fluently.

The children will be able to bring a love of reading book home on a Friday every week. This is a sharing book, your child might want to share the pictures, have a go at reading it or have it read to them. All children have also a similar-levelled reading book that goes home weekly, on a Tuesday. This should be pitched at a similar level to the guided reading books they are reading in class. This term we will be working on reading skills and learning to answer comprehension questions independently. This will help children as we head towards their first formal reading assessments in Year One (NFERs), which they will complete in late March.

In Maths, we will begin with looking at adding and subtracting numbers within 20 over 4 weeks, then move on to thinking about place value of numbers to 50 for the last 2 weeks of the half term. Children will learn about the 'commutativity' of addition and learn that it is more efficient to add from the largest number. They will consolidate their number bonds to 10 and use these to support learning number bonds to numbers up to 20. Children will think about 0 and what happens when nothing is taken away or when the whole amount is taken away and nothing is left. Children will use the part whole model to reinforce number bonds to 20. Children will be introduced to subtraction across the number 10, focussing on the strategy of partition. This will be taught using manipulatives and then move to children doing it in their heads as a mental strategy. Children will look at addition and subtractions families to 20. We will then move the counting to numbers within 50- counting on and back and recognising how numbers up to 50 are made, eg counting in 10s and then 1s. Supporting the children at home makes a huge impact on the children's learning at school. Any counting or using numbers in context reinforces what the children are beginning to understand. Counting steps, eggs, trees, lamp posts anything to encourage language of number and correspondence to what that number means is fantastic. Looking at numbers around the house, on clocks, weight, numbers in packets anything where the children can be encouraged to look at numbers and count without them thinking they are learning!

It is an ongoing concern that more and more children have access to the internet independently at home. There has been a particular increase in children watching YouTube without supervision and it is possible to view very inappropriate content on this site. Please refer to the e-Safety pages on our website should you require support or guidance with this matter. There is a copy of our safer usage policy as well as a sheet for parents with lots of useful information on it.

If you have any questions about anything regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please can you ask your child to let us know if there is something to read in their message books as we do not check them all daily. Please email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk if you prefer

and we will try to reply within 48 hours.

Kind regards,

Mrs Keast and Miss Jones



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