

Term 5 Newsletter (Wildcats)

Dear Families,

I hope you have all had a lovely Easter holidays and are ready for Term 5. Please look at our Medium Term Plan for Term 5 for a more in-depth overview of our learning this term. Our 'Show and Tell' and Library Day is Thursday and our spelling quiz will take place on Friday.

The Year One team:

Beth Baker
Class Teacher

Claire Cox
Learning Support Assistant
Mon-Fri

Tracey Sealey
Learning Support Assistant
Mon-Wed

Enquiry Questions this term: I wonder what living things I can find in our local area? (Science/Learn Together/Art). Why do people remember Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell? (History).

In Science, Learn Together and Art we will be focussing on our local environment, looking closely at the different types of plants and wildlife that we can find. We will be learning the difference between garden and wild plants, having a go at identification and using our observation skills to support our sketching skills. In Learn Together, we are focussing on "Making a Difference" and we will be completing a project to enhance our local area (which will be decided by the children). In History, we will be learning about Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavill, finding out why they are so important to remember.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these rights:

- Article 14: Children can choose their own thoughts, opinions and religion.
- Article 29: All children have the right to an education that helps you to learn to live peacefully and protect the environment.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website. [Please click here to view the overview for this term. \(Y1\)](#)

Home Learning

Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

I have updated the children's phonics wallets with new sounds and words to flick through. For some children, practicing reading these sounds in words is the main target to ensure we can recognise it in context.

Spelling

Following feedback from some parents, I have reduced the number of spellings each week to make them more manageable to learn at home. I have chosen 6 'tricky' words (also known as common exception words) for Year 1, as these are the words that the children should be able to spell correctly by the end of Year 1. On the bottom of the spelling sheet will be an optional 4 words and 4 sentences that can be practiced at home but will **not** be quizzed. These will be based off of the previous weeks' sounds that have been taught to help consolidate this learning but will hopefully provide some children with an additional challenge. This is currently something I am trialling so your feedback on the new spelling format would be appreciated.

There will be a log in to LetterJoin in the children's reading records from Week 2. The children can use this to practice their letter formation from home.

[Access Letter Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling. Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.](#)

Maths

Children are expected to practise key number facts at home regularly.

Key Stage 1

In Key Stage 1, the expectation is that children learn their addition and subtraction number facts to 10 at home. At school we use a programme called Numbersense. Follow the link below for the Numbersense overviews which also give you advice on games and activities you can do at home to support your children with what is currently being taught in class.

[Numbersense Home Learning Overviews \(Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3 Autumn Term\)](#)

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home.
<https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths>

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.

[Year 1](#) [Year 2](#) [Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)
[Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6](#)

[Busy Things also has some good games which support addition and subtraction number facts.](#)

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page

You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Reading Records

Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading 4 times or more get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

School Clothing Guidance

Please see the [page on our website](#) for more information on appropriate clothing for school.

Library Day

Our Library Day is on Thursday.

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day

Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday.

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

Class Assembly Date

Keep the date in your diary! Our class assembly for this academic year is on:

Reception: Mon 23rd Jun – 2.40pm
Year 1: Mon 19th May – 2.40pm
Year 2: Mon 24th Mar – 2.40pm
Year 3: Mon 10th Mar – 2.40pm
Year 4: Mon 3rd Feb – 2.40pm
Year 5: Mon 11th Nov – 2.40pm
Year 6: Mon 14th Oct – 2.40pm

Please read the whole school newsletters regularly as they include other important dates.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Filled Water Bottle
- Library book on library days
- Welly boots would still be useful in year 1.

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In the Early Years and Key Stage One, the children are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable via the Government scheme.

In Key Stage Two, children need to bring a piece of healthy snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.

For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.