



Class 1 Newsletter Autumn 2021



Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you have all enjoyed the summer holidays. The Class 1 team are looking forward to joining our children through the upcoming academic adventures. Class 1 will be taught by Miss Northway, supported by Miss Ducat, Mrs Bowmer, Mrs Russell and Miss Edenbrow. Miss Edenbrow will join our class on a Thursday and Friday and she is looking forward to getting to know you all. Miss Ducat will continue to teach Class 1 while I have my allocated PPA and NQT time. We are also excited to welcome Mrs Smith back into the classroom to teach cookery and French; we know how much you all missed our regular cookery lessons with Mrs Smith last year.

Year 1 learning outline

Our topic

Our Year 1 topic title this half term is 'My World'. We are linking our learning to the world around us, both in a wider and more personal way. For example, we will learn about our school and village in Geography and link this to our PSHE lessons about 'being me in my world.' As always, our EYFS children will guide their own learning topics, with staff planning learning based around their interests. We are sure the topics will be as interesting and varied as always.

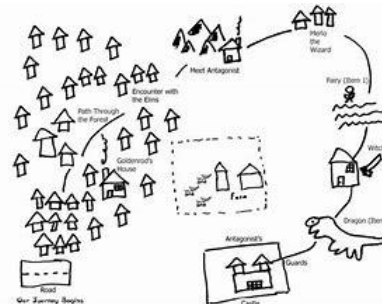


History

We are going to focus on significant historical events and people within our locality, creating a timeline of historical events and events of personal significance to our children. The BBC bitesize page called 'childhood through time' has a selection of videos to watch and activity ideas that your child may enjoy doing at home (available via this link- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zc9s6g8>). If any of our families have historical images of the school or village we would be very grateful if you would allow us to use these, you are welcome to send a physical copy to school or email a copy to the admin team or Miss Northway.

Geography

Before we broke up for the summer holidays our current year 1 (previously reception) children had an opportunity to put forward ideas for their learning this coming term. Almost all of our children expressed an interest in making and looking at maps, following on from their learning about animals and their habitats around the world in EYFS. As such, I have designed our geography unit to allow them the opportunity to create two maps this term, one of the school grounds and one of the village. We will use aerial images, our observational skills and simple field work to gather information that helps us with these tasks. I look forward to seeing the lovely work we create together. As part of our learning about maps, we will begin to look at the features of a map including a compass and a key. BBC bitesize has a collection of videos and activities that your child may find helpful and supportive for their learning, accessible via the following link- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqj3n9q/articles/zjd66v4> . You may also wish to make a map of your home, a different village or make an imaginary map such as a pirate map or unicorn hunt map, creating your own key and symbols.



Computing



This half term will see us begin to explore how to use the internet safely. Your child will learn the importance of safe internet use while following the Purple Mash computing scheme of work. It would be really helpful to your child if you could support this learning by using the Purple Mash platform at home, allowing your child the opportunity to familiarise themselves with

the platform and how to access it (here is the link for the school login page- <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/chapel-yo8>). If you have not received your child's login details, have lost them or need a reminder please contact the admin team or Miss Northway.

Science

We are excited to begin a whole school project all about the weather and seasons. Each class will contribute to the project through research, observation and outdoor activities. This project will run throughout the whole year and provides all of our children an opportunity to be fully immersed in a scientific project, gaining valuable knowledge and skills as the year progresses. Your child can also access a range of 'seasons' activities via their Purple Mash account. Once logged into Purple Mash, type 'seasons' into the search bar and here you will find folders of various activities.



Alongside our Seasons project, Year 1 children will be learning to identify the materials that an object is made from, including wood, metal, glass, rock, water and plastic. The STEM Learning website has some interesting activities and useful information links for your child to explore at home (available via this link- <https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/community/collection/12725/year-1-everyday-materials>).

Art and design technology.

Our art adventures this year begin with Abstract Art. The Tate Gallery have a wonderful website where your children can look at the works of some of the great abstract artists (available via this link - <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/a/abstract-art>). One key focus for this project will be learning to colour our own work neatly and staying within the lines. It may be helpful if your child can continue mastering these skills at home too by drawing a small picture and colouring it in.



Our design technology project is designed to complement the art project as your children design and make their own picture frame to display their art work in. We will continue to use an abstract theme for these and draw on our science learning to choose materials based on their properties.

English



As we begin the new academic year, we will focus on increasing our stamina for writing and using our phonics knowledge to write unfamiliar words. Our English lessons will be text-based as this allows us to use familiar stories to inspire our writing. We will begin our writing units in a practical way, using acting, 'small world' play and collaborative work to reinforce our learning before we commit our ideas and thoughts to paper. It would be really useful for your child if they had an opportunity to use their writing and phonics skills on a regular basis at home too; they could help write shopping lists, cards, letters or label items around the home. One

of the texts we will focus on this term is 'The Three Little Pigs'. This is a familiar story for most of our children and allows us to use some of our science knowledge about materials to look at why the brick house was impossible to blow down.

Maths

Year 1 children will build upon their previous knowledge of place value, addition, subtraction and shape throughout this term. We will begin by exploring place value to 10, then addition and subtraction within 10, followed by shape and finishing the term with place value to 20. BBC Bitesize and Topmarks have a range of games to support early maths development. (available via - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjkphbk> or <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>)



Phonics

Year 1 children will now progress onto phase 5 phonics. We will continue to introduce new GPC's (grapheme-phoneme-correspondence) and new 'tricky' words, while revisiting and reinforcing our previous phonics learning. I will share with parents the new GPC's and 'tricky' words we are learning, which will enable those who would like to continue this learning at home to do so. I am often asked by parents how to sound out new graphemes; if you have any questions regarding a specific grapheme or would like to discuss phonics further, please let me know. Alternatively, if you wish to watch a demonstration at home this link will take you to a video that demonstrates how to say each grapheme - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ksblMiliA8>

I will be holding a Phonics meeting for parents in the coming weeks for which you will receive a separate letter with details once confirmed.

Early Years Learning

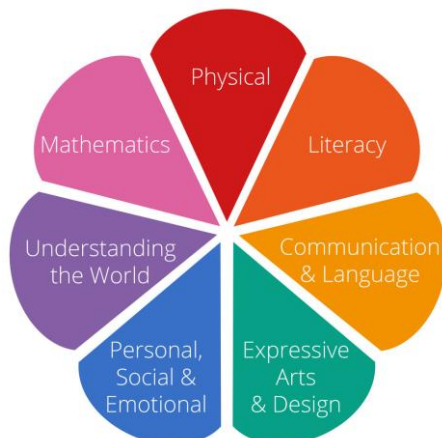


The Early Years Foundation Stage

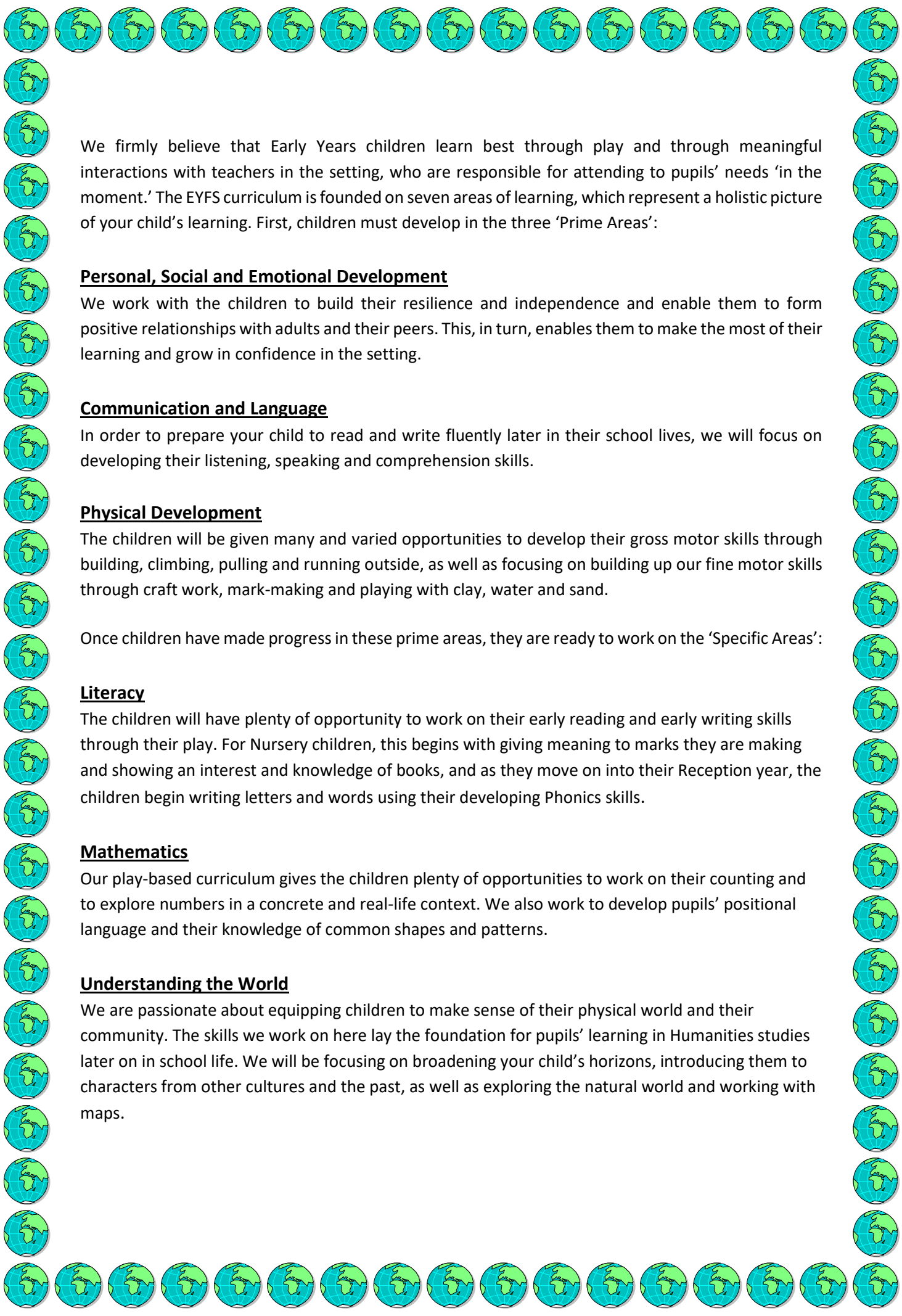
Welcome to Class 1! We hope that you have all enjoyed a restful break over the summer and that you are ready to learn lots this term. Everyone in Nursery and Reception will be assigned a key adult, who will be responsible for looking out for you and overseeing your learning and development. We will send out a letter informing each child of their key adult in the next few weeks.

Teaching and Learning

This term, we are adopting the new Early Years Foundation Stage framework, which is still underpinned by the same 'Characteristics of Effective Learning,' which informed the previous programme:



- Playing and exploring - children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go.'
- Active learning - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements.
- Creating and thinking critically - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.

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We firmly believe that Early Years children learn best through play and through meaningful interactions with teachers in the setting, who are responsible for attending to pupils' needs 'in the moment.' The EYFS curriculum is founded on seven areas of learning, which represent a holistic picture of your child's learning. First, children must develop in the three 'Prime Areas':

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We work with the children to build their resilience and independence and enable them to form positive relationships with adults and their peers. This, in turn, enables them to make the most of their learning and grow in confidence in the setting.

Communication and Language

In order to prepare your child to read and write fluently later in their school lives, we will focus on developing their listening, speaking and comprehension skills.

Physical Development

The children will be given many and varied opportunities to develop their gross motor skills through building, climbing, pulling and running outside, as well as focusing on building up our fine motor skills through craft work, mark-making and playing with clay, water and sand.

Once children have made progress in these prime areas, they are ready to work on the 'Specific Areas':

Literacy

The children will have plenty of opportunity to work on their early reading and early writing skills through their play. For Nursery children, this begins with giving meaning to marks they are making and showing an interest and knowledge of books, and as they move on into their Reception year, the children begin writing letters and words using their developing Phonics skills.

Mathematics

Our play-based curriculum gives the children plenty of opportunities to work on their counting and to explore numbers in a concrete and real-life context. We also work to develop pupils' positional language and their knowledge of common shapes and patterns.

Understanding the World

We are passionate about equipping children to make sense of their physical world and their community. The skills we work on here lay the foundation for pupils' learning in Humanities studies later on in school life. We will be focusing on broadening your child's horizons, introducing them to characters from other cultures and the past, as well as exploring the natural world and working with maps.

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Expressive Arts and Design

We will give children many opportunities to express their creativity, including building with junk modelling, a wide range of mark-making, and learning and creating their own songs, as well as encouraging their imaginative play throughout the setting.

Phonics

Our Reception cohort will work their way through Phases 2 and 3 of the 'Letters and Sounds' Phonics scheme. Our learning will focus on helping children to match letters ('graphemes') to sounds ('phonemes') and we will be learning how to blend sounds together to read a word and segment sounds in our heads in order to spell a word. We will also learn a selection of 'tricky words,' which cannot be sounded out. The children will have a reading book sent home each week: please ensure that they read with you as regularly as possible. To supplement our Phonics, we will begin work on our handwriting. Please note that our handwriting policy advocates that the children learn to write cursively from the beginning.

I will be holding a Phonics meeting for parents in the coming weeks, you will receive a separate letter with details once confirmed.

Extra information (all year groups)

Please can all children bring a complete change of clothes to school each day, in case of accidents or school clothes getting wet and messy? Class 1 will have their PE lesson on a Wednesday afternoon each week; please send your child into school in their PE kit that day, in line with our risk assessment, and ensure that all kit is named. A big part of our vision is for parents and carers to be as involved in the children's learning as possible. All children in early years (Nursery & Reception) have a 'Tapestry' account, which enables everyone at home to see the learning we have done and to tell us about significant steps forward that the children make. Year 1 homework will be set via Teams each Friday and should be handed in by the following Thursday. We will also post class news and any badges of achievement on 'Marvellous Me.' Please contact me if you want help with accessing Tapestry, Teams or Marvellous Me.

As always, we are encouraging close communications between home and school. If you need to contact me, please do so by telephoning or emailing the main office. Staff will not be able to engage in lengthy conversations during drop off and collection times but will endeavour to get back to you within 24 hours. Messages will be passed on within the same day, but please mention if it is an urgent matter such as safeguarding or medical information. Class teachers may email in return within the working hours of 8:00am to 5.30pm. A member of the senior leadership team can also be found on duty before school, and they are more than happy to answer any queries or questions. Appointments can be made via the main office to discuss anything confidential. We are trying to limit visitors calling into the main school office so please telephone or email if that is an option for communication.

Miss Northway and the Class 1 team.