

Spring Term



Dear Children and Parents of Year 1,

I hope you all had an enjoyable winter break.

Having been in year 1 for a whole term, the children are getting used to the routines and behaviour expectations, but this is something we will keep working on this term. We will also continue to set high expectations for the children's learning, and we have some fabulous topics to cover this term so hopefully they will be as excited to learn as I am to teach them!

Below you will find some details on what we will be covering this term:

English Reading

The texts we will be basing our English Reading learning on this term are as follows:

- The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter
- Look Up by Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola
- Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers
- Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen

English Writing

Our English writing this term will be focussed on the below themes:

- Shape poems and Calligrams
- Informal letters
- Recount from personal experience
- Poetry on a theme
- Instructional writing
- Stories with a familiar setting

Reading

We encourage children to read as often as possible to develop their fluency, pace and love of reading. We will send a book home with the children each week, changing it on a Monday and/or a Friday when they have finished reading them. Please read at home as often as you can; repetition really does help your child's learning of tricky words and fluency. Please use the reading record to record whatever and whenever your child reads at home. If you are able to send your child's book in each day we can also record when your child reads with an adult in school, as this takes place throughout the week. We aim to read with each child individually at least once a week.

We also have a daily 'Love of Reading' story time every afternoon.

Please see below some recommended books for you to read at home with your children in addition to the school books. These are all available to borrow from Kedington library, or to purchase from Amazon. Please do record in your child's reading record if you read any of these books and I will add a special sticker for each book read, with a 'Love of Reading' certificate if you complete them all!

Recommended reading books for home

	<p>Penguin by Polly Dunbar A very accessible picture book ideal for reading aloud and acting out. A boy receives a penguin for a present. Only when a lion passes does it speak, and when it does, something surprising happens.</p>
	<p>That Rabbit Belongs To Emily Brown by Cressida Cowell and Neal Layton A classic and catchy story of right and wrong that is perfect to explain the concepts of property and justice. Equally suited to classroom discussion and bedtime reading, this is one of those timeless picture books children will want to revisit.</p>
	<p>The Bad-tempered Ladybird by Eric Carle This short story is about a ladybird who argues with every other living creature he meets. This ideal book for year 1 children also uses a clock face cleverly to illustrate the passing hours, making it ideal for introducing children to an analogue clock face and telling the time.</p>
	<p>Katie Morag's Island Stories by Mairi Hedderwick Set in Scotland, Katie Morag is a mischievous character who is always up to something. This book contains four of the most popular Katie Morag stories.</p>
	<p>Captain Toby by Satoshi Kitamura When Toby can't sleep due to the wind, rain and thunder outside, he finds himself and his home transported into the ocean where a giant octopus lurks. This is a wonderful book to read and share with younger children, and with sparkling and imaginative artwork, this picture book is also a great impetus for creative writing ideas in lower KS1.</p>

Maths

We are continuing to follow Maths Mastery for our Maths learning this term. This is a great way of working; encouraging discussions and group work and using a range of equipment to support your child's learning. The lessons are practical and fast paced.

During the first half of the term we are reviewing number bonds to 10, addition and subtraction using known facts and problem solving, before moving on to numbers to 50. We will then expand our existing addition and subtraction knowledge to include numbers within 20, before introducing fractions and measurement.

Curriculum Subjects

In **Science** our topic for the first half of Spring term is Everyday Materials, then we will be revisiting our learning on Animals including Humans.

In **Geography** we will be reviewing Continents, Oceans, UK Countries, Capital Cities and Surrounding Seas, before looking at Hot and Cold Parts of the World.

In **History** our topic for Spring Term is The Lives of Significant People, where we will be looking at who Mary Anning is and why she is significant, then who David Attenborough is, what he does and what he's achieved.

Other subject overview

In **Music** we will be looking at musical vocabulary with a lovely 'Under the Sea' theme, then moving on to Timbre and Rhythmic Patterns with a fairy tale theme.

In **RE** we will be continuing to learn about Christianity, focussing on Jesus as a friend and then Easter – Palm Sunday.

In **PSHE** we continue looking at Celebrating Difference and then Dreams and Goals.

In **Computing** we will be investigating what an algorithm is.

PE routines & PE kit expectations

For this term, Hedgehog class will continue to have PE with Premier Sport on a **Wednesday morning**. Please continue to send children in PE kit on a Wednesday for the whole day.

We will then be having a second PE session on a **Thursday afternoon**. This will be in the hall for the first half of the term where we will be learning some dance steps using words. On Thursdays please send children in to school wearing school uniform but with their PE kits labelled in a bag. They will change into their PE kit after lunch but remain in them until home time.

Children need to have the correct school PE kit uniform, as in accordance with our uniform policy. Children won't need more than a t-shirt and shorts/jogging bottoms for dance on Thursdays, as they will always be inside. However, they will require extra layers for the Premier Sport session on Wednesdays, as it will be outdoors when the weather allows.

Playtimes

Where possible all playtimes will be on the field. It is essential that the children have an outdoor pair of trainers or wellies, which they can leave in school. A coat for wet weather and waterproof trousers or a spare pair of tracksuit bottoms they can slip over the top of their school clothes to avoid getting their uniform dirty would also be useful.

Homework

We encourage you to read with your children every day even if it is just for a short time. This will improve their fluency and will lead to a greater comprehension of the books they encounter both at home and at school.

Meanwhile, if you have any queries, concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can message me on class dojo or by email at khurst@wickhambrookschool.co.uk.

I very much look forward to continuing our learning journey together as 'Team Hedgehog' this term, and I hope the children continue to make themselves (and us!) proud with all their hard work and progress.

Best wishes and thank you in anticipation for all your support

Mrs Hurst