



Year 1 Spring Term Newsletter

Happy New Year! It has been an interesting start to 2021 and the new term, but we would like to say a massive thank you to all of our children and families for their patience and support as we get used to this adapted way of learning. We are so proud of how the children have embraced the changes and look forward to a productive term.

We will be supporting learning at home through a combination of live lessons, recorded lessons and child-led learning. We really value your support with this and please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. One of the Year 1 team will also be calling families each week, to check how things are going and to say hello to the children.

Topic

We are excited to start our brand new topic 'Rain, Steam and Speed' and are looking forward to exploring this with the children both in school and at home. William Turner's famous painting will be the starting point for our learning. This topic links with the International Year of the Train and there are also strong links to the Isle of Wight. We will explore the importance of the development of the railway in history, look at great engineers in design technology and experiment with different materials and learn about their properties in science. In geography, we will work on physical and man-made features and maps. For our literacy focus, we will be working on non-fiction writing, creating fact files and reports. We will also enjoy and explore a range of stories and poetry linked to railways and the weather. In maths, we will continue to secure understanding of place value and addition and subtraction, as well as begin to look at money and the value of different coins.

Please take a moment to look through our curriculum jigsaw as well as the home learning grid to look at all the other foundation subject ideas as well as letting children take control of their own learning to find out what they are interested in. Please feel free to share your findings with us!

Phonics and Reading

Although the national phonics screening in June has been postponed for this year, phonics remains a key focus in Year 1 as we are passionate about developing both the skills and the enthusiasm for the children to love reading. We will continue with daily phonics sessions, both in school and via live lessons. We also encourage children to read everyday and recommend the Oxford Owl site <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/> which is free to use and has wide range of banded books.

Wellbeing and Active Living

We continue to recognise the importance of staying both mentally and physically well, and this remains an important focus for our children at home and in school. We will continue with weekly P.E. lessons every Wednesday, so please can children in school bring their P.E. kit for these. Unfortunately we won't be having ballet with Miss Helen as planned this term, but the children will get to enjoy this in the Autumn term of Year 2 instead. We will also provide suggested P.E. activities for the children at home to try. You will notice a wellbeing focus within our learning plans, utilising Cosmic Kids mindfulness and yoga as well as P.S.H.E. activities through the S.C.A.R.F. program.

Best Wishes

**Mrs Wyld, Miss Skinner, Miss Wren
and the Year One Team**

