



Year 1 - Spring Term Newsletter 25-26



Welcome back to school everyone!

We hope you have all had a restful Christmas break and are ready for the new term ahead.

The first week back has been very productive, and the children have settled back into school routines extremely well. They have been a pleasure to have back and have enjoyed making the most of the winter weather.

Myself and the Year 1 team would like to take this opportunity to thank you all once again for the kind words, Christmas cards, and generous gifts. They were very much appreciated. We feel so privileged to work with such amazing children and with you, their supportive parents.

We are really looking forward to lots more fun-filled learning experiences during the Spring term.

Please see below for this term's overview.

Curriculum Overview - Spring Term 2026

<p><u>Maths</u></p> <p>Place Value within 20 Addition and Subtraction within 20</p>	<p><u>English</u></p> <p>Character Description – Fantasy & Real Life Thank you letter Non-Chronological Reports</p>	<p><u>RE</u></p> <p>Christmas Forgiveness Hinduism Lent Holy Week</p>	<p><u>Science</u></p> <p>Animals including Humans Seasonal Changes</p>	<p><u>RSHE</u></p> <p>Money I am Unique Clean & Healthy</p>
<p><u>History</u></p> <p>Who were the greatest explorers?</p>	<p><u>Geography</u></p> <p>Where do our favourite animals live?</p>	<p><u>Year 1</u></p>	<p><u>Forest School</u></p> <p>No Forest School until Summer Term</p>	<p><u>Music</u></p> <p>Composing and performing</p>
<p><u>Art</u></p> <p>Collage: Flora & Fauna</p>	<p><u>DT</u></p> <p>Buildings</p>		<p><u>Computing</u></p> <p>Computing Skills Moving a Robot</p>	<p><u>PE</u></p> <p><u>Monday & Thursday</u></p> <p>Basketball Football Dance Gymnastics</p>

Homework Expectations

Reading

Regular reading with your child is one of the best ways to support their learning across the curriculum and build up their vocabulary and an understanding of the wider world. We continue to expect daily reading opportunities with a minimum of 4 times recorded in the Reading Record.

- **All reading books and reading records should be brought to school daily.** We have provided a folder to support with organisation.
- Reading Records and reading books will be collected in and checked on a **Monday**.
- Please ensure your child brings their books and reading records daily as reading these books may be part of planned activities and supports additional reading opportunities in school are updated in the journal.
- On a **Friday** your child will also take home a **shared reading book linked to the weekly Phonics sessions**.
- The children may choose a different '**enrichment/bedtime book**' on any day and are encouraged to do so. This can be read with/to your child to encourage a love of books. This book may be above their current reading level and should be shared and enjoyed together.
- Reading Records will be monitored and expectations encouraged, those children who are not reading at home and having their reading record signed will spend 5 minutes of their break time reading to practise these skills at school.

Spelling & Phonics

Spellings will continue to be sent home on a **Monday** to learn at home ready for a test the following Monday. The children are given 5 words to learn from the common exception words list for Year 1 and are also tested on 5 words using their phonics sound of the week.

In preparation for the **National Year 1 Phonics Screen** in the Summer term we will begin to share and encourage additional phonics rehearsal at home. This may be via a website activity, specific activity, or a QR code test practice. This will be explained in more detail as it is sent home. Thank you in advance for your support around this.

Numbots and Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS)

The children should aim to spend 5-10 minutes on Numbots at least 3 times a week. This will enable the children to develop their confidence and fluency of number facts.

We are also working on counting in 2's, 5's and 10's in order to support the children in preparation for learning their timetables. If you feel that your child is confident, they may also access the TTRS site to further develop this skill.

Additional ideas to support at home

Maths

Children learn best through repetition of mathematical concepts. Practising skills such as number bonds and facts, 1 more or 1 less, doubles and halves, odd and even numbers, counting in 2's, 5's and 10's and recognising numbers in different representations (including as words) will support your child with their learning at school. We use the TOPMARKS games regularly in class to support quick recall.

Supportive websites include -

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/index.html>

<https://nrich.maths.org/parents>

English

Completing the reading, spellings and writing homework weekly will be a huge support to your child.

Supportive websites include -

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/literacy.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zgkw2hv>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

<https://phonicsandstuff.com/games>

Wider curriculum

Our class blog / TWITTER (X) page will be updated with what we have been learning at school - Please make sure you have informed school if you do not consent to your child's image being included in these updates. The curriculum overview as above shares the general area of learning. Please encourage your children to discuss what they have learnt and encourage them ask questions about their learning.

Independence is key - please encourage your child to think about what they need to bring to school each morning, to pass on any letters/messages as well as take responsibility for their belongings. All uniform, PE kit, water bottles etc should be **clearly named** to avoid anything getting lost.

Please ensure your child's correct and complete PE kit is in school and that they have the appropriate kit for the weather forecast.

REMEMBER

Any questions, comments or concerns that you would like to raise, please do not hesitate to catch me or a member of the team at the classroom door or email me directly at: dionne.alford@allsoulsschool.co.uk

Many thanks,

Mrs Alford & the Year 1 team