

Year 1 Autumn Term 1 2025

Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome to Year 1!

I hope you all had a fantastic summer, and I am really excited to have another year with your children.

English and Maths



This half term, the mornings will alternate between a maths focus and an English focus. This allows us to teach the children in groups so we can slowly build up to more formal whole class teaching. In English, we will be focusing on how to construct simple sentences with finger spaces and using capital letters and full stops correctly. In maths, we will be concentrating on understanding place value within ten. The children will also continue to have daily phonics and maths fluency sessions. There will be a parent workshop on supporting your child with Year One phonics, dates to be confirmed.



Topic (Geography focus)

This term, Year 1 and 2 will learn about Africa. They will be focusing on the following questions:



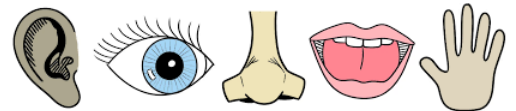
- What are the seven continents and five oceans?
- Why is it hot in Africa?
- What animals would you see in Africa?
- How would my life differ if I lived in Africa?

We have arranged to take the children to Yorkshire Wildlife Park on **Thursday 2nd October** as part of this topic. You will receive a separate letter about this trip next week, but if you would like to help on trip, please let me know.

Science

This half term, the children will be asked the following questions exploring the human body:

- Do I know the parts of the body?
- What are the five senses?



PE



Our P.E days are **Monday and Friday**. Children need to attend school on these days in their school uniform P.E kit. This half term we will continue to focus on ball skills, play hand ball and continue with yoga.

Reading

Book exchange: All children will have a school reading book (matched to their phonic ability) and reading record. These books will be changed on **Fridays**. When you have read the book, please sign the reading record. If you have not finished the book your child is reading and would like to keep it an extra week, please write me a message in the reading record.



Library: In addition to bringing home a school reading book every Friday, children will also choose a book from the school library to take home. The children can choose any book, and this decision should be based on reading for pleasure rather than their reading ability (this may mean they bring a book home for you to read to them). These books should be brought in every **Friday**. The children will not be able to get a new library book until they have returned the previous one.



The children will also be introduced to the school's Reading Role characters and have a Reading Buddy from Year 4.

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PSHE

In PSHE, the children will be discussing the following question:

- What is the same and different about us?

The children will engage in discussions about their individual likes and dislikes, exploring what they enjoy and what they do not. They will reflect on their own strengths and identify the positive qualities in their peers, helping to foster a sense of self-awareness and appreciation for others. The children will also be encouraged to think about what makes them unique, as well as consider the similarities and differences they share with those around them. Additionally, the children will be introduced to the Zones of Regulation. They will learn how to recognise different emotions and behaviours in themselves and develop strategies to help them manage and regulate their feelings effectively.

RE

In RE, the children will learn about different faiths and religions through the question:

- Which books and stories are special and why?

Art

Our focus artist for this half term is Andy Goldsworthy, and the children will make their own collages from natural materials and paint an autumn picture. The children will also look at cave art and use charcoal to create their own cave markings.

The children will also have **Music** (Move to the beat: Exploring Pulse and Rhythm) and **Computing** sessions (Animation) which will be led by Mrs Rocket (formally Miss Leafe).

Water bottles, Milk and Lunch Menu

Please ensure your child brings a filled water bottle with them to school every day. If you would like your child to have milk, you will need to sign up and pay for it, information is on the website. Please also check the school website to see the lunch menus.



Future Stay and Play dates

I would like to continue with some play and stay sessions this year. There will be one each half term from 9am to 10am. I hope you can attend a session.

- Monday 6th October
- Wednesday 26th November
- Tuesday 27th January
- Thursday 12th March
- Friday 1st May
- Friday 3rd July

SeeSaw

I will continue to post the children's learning to their SeeSaw account, so look out for the updates.

If you ever need to get in contact, please email me at lucy.alston@benrhydding.bradford.sch.uk and I'll endeavour to respond as promptly as I can. Please, however, contact the office regarding any pick up arrangements as I may not get chance to check my emails during the day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Alston