

Year 1 Spring Term 1 2026

Curriculum Newsletter



Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break. Thank you again for the extremely generous gifts. I have enjoyed hearing about what the children have been doing over the Christmas break. There is a lot to look forward to this half term.

On Friday 30th January the children will be taking part in their activity fundraiser for the Matthew Rusike Children's Home and School in Zimbabwe. I will send a separate letter about this event soon with all the information you need.

English and Maths

In English, we will be focusing on when we need to use capital letters as well as using the conjunction 'and' in a sentence. In maths, we will continue to concentrate on addition and subtraction and place value within 20. The children will also continue to have daily phonics and maths fluency sessions.



Topic

This term, Year 1 and 2 will learn about the Great Fire of London. They will be focusing on the following questions:

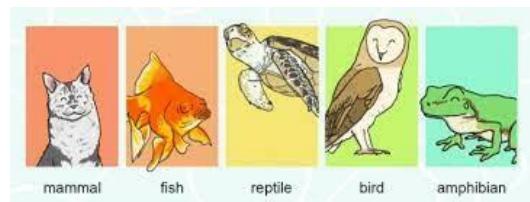


- What was London like in 1666?
- How did the Great Fire of London happen?
- Who was Samuel Pepys?
- What was the impact of the Great Fire of London?
- Do you believe the Great Fire of London was an accident?

Science

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

- Can I identify and name a variety of common animals?
- How can we compare and group animals?
- What is a carnivore?
- What is a herbivore?
- What is an omnivore?



We will also be learning about Winter as we explore how the seasons change across the year.

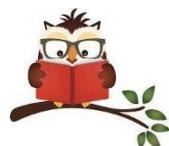
PE



Our P.E days are **Monday and Friday**. Children need to attend school on these days in their school uniform P.E kit.

Reading

Book exchange: All children will continue to have a school reading book (matched to their phonic ability) and reading record. If your child is struggling to read their book, please get in touch. These books will continue to be changed on **Fridays**. When you have read the book, please sign the



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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. When your child has read their book to you, you could model how to read with expression and also ask some questions to check comprehension.



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.

PSHE and RE

In PSHE the children will be learning about ways to keep healthy and why it is important to be healthy. In RE the children will be learning about special books including those belonging to different religions.

DT / Art

In DT the children will continue their work on wheels and axles resulting in them making a moving fire engine. This half term our artist for inspiration is Vincent Van Gogh. The children will be producing their own Starry Night paintings.

Mrs Rockett will continue with the **music** and **computing** curriculum on a Tuesday afternoon.

Water bottles

Please ensure your child brings a filled water bottle with them to school every day.



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 as well 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.

Miss Alston

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 6th January: School opens for Spring 1

Tuesday 27th January: Stay and Play 9am to 10am

Friday 30th January: Fundraising afternoon for The Matthew Rusike School in Zimbabwe

Saturday 31st January: Ashlands Cross Country

Tuesday 3rd February: Parent workshops

Friday 6th February: NSPCC Number Day

Saturday 7th February: Ghyll Royd Cross Country

Friday 13th February: School closes for half term

Monday 23rd February: School opens for Spring 2