

Year One Newsletter

Spring 2 2025



Welcome back! We hope you have had a lovely half-term holiday, having had some time to spend with your families. It has been lovely hearing about all the children's adventures and stories about their half term.

We have another amazing half term ahead of us full of learning opportunities where your children will continue to thrive.

Our topic this half-term is 'Marvellous Monarchs'.

Phonics Screening Check

In June, Year 1 children will take part in the Phonics Screening Check which is required by the Government. The purpose of the phonics screening check is to confirm that all children have learned phonic decoding to an age-appropriate standard. The check will be completed over a week and your child's results will be sent home with them. For more information please click [here](#).



Mrs Reynolds will be conducting a mock Phonics screen this half-term so the children can have a practice! To support your child with the phonics screening check, we encourage you to read with them once a day to embed their knowledge of their taught sounds. If you would like support on how to support you child with phonics you can visit the Little Wandle page for resources click [here](#) or ask your child's class teacher.

Kings and Queens Day

We are super excited to hold our royal 'Kings and Queens' Day on: **Thursday 10th March 2025**.

The children will be taking part in a range of activities during the day and this theme day links perfectly to our Marvellous Monarchs topic this half-term!

We are inviting children to come to school in their best dress or as royalty. Please do not buy anything new for this occasion, their smartest clothes will be absolutely perfect!



Whipsnade Zoo

On **Wednesday 23rd April 2025**, Year 1 children have the fantastic opportunity to visit Whipsnade Zoo. We feel this experience starts our Africa topic off in Summer 1 with a roar! A letter has already been sent to you with all the details, and lots of parents have already paid, thank you! Payment deadline for your child to attend this trip is Friday 28th March 2025. If you are able to volunteer and come along for the day on the trip, please speak to your class teacher or email the Year 1 email address. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



Value of the Month – March and April

The value of the month for March is 'friendship' and 'taking pride' is the value for April.



Year 1 Curriculum – Marvellous Monarchs



In English this half term, we are looking at a range of royal stories and writing for a variety of purposes. Our stories include: Zog, The Queen's Hat, The Queen's Knickers and The King's Pants. The children will be writing instructions on how to train a dragon, retelling familiar stories and adapting ones too! They will continue to develop their understanding of nouns, verbs, adjectives, expanded noun phrases and similes.

During History, the children will learn all about famous monarchs; Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria, Queen Elizabeth II and our new King Charles III, developing their understanding of timelines and how sources of evidence inform what we know about the past. Year 1 will celebrate our learning with an exciting Kings' and Queens' Day.



In Maths, the children will continue to consolidate their understanding of numbers to 50. They will learn how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s and will start to develop an understanding of multiplication.

This half term in Science, we are consolidating our understanding of materials and their properties and developing our understanding of scientific enquiry.



We are focusing on Jackson Pollock during Art. The children will be exploring how we can be creative using our feelings as inspiration, using colour and experimenting with different painting techniques.

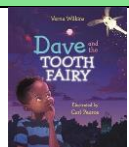
In RE we are learning all about Easter and why it is important to Christians.



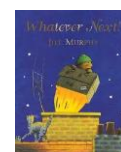
We are learning all about how to keep ourselves healthy and safe in PSHE. We will be identifying ways to keep healthy, how to make ourselves feel better when we are ill and developing our understanding of road safety.

In Music the children will be practicing their sing off song ready for our school competition on the last day of term! Watch this space!

Recommended Reads



Mrs Reynolds recommends 'Dave and the Tooth Fairy' by Verna Wilkins because:
"It has a wealth of thoughtful and humorous detail about a missing tooth. Not to mention that the illustrations are mesmerising too!"

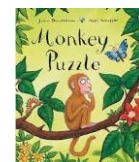


Mrs Kalek recommends 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy because:

"It is an inventive story to inspire imaginative play! Baby Bear captures children's attention with his imaginative use of everyday, household objects as he collects everything he needs to travel into space! A brilliant story to inspire creativity - it makes way for whatever a cardboard box could be and wherever that may take us!"

Mrs Fox recommends 'Monkey Puzzle' by Julia Donaldson because:

"It's a funny book about being lost in the jungle and meeting someone who wants to help. But monkey doesn't realise that not all Mummies and Daddies look like their babies."



Miss Holman recommends 'Oi Frog!' by Kes Gray because:

"It is a fun and hilarious way for children to learn rhyming words".



Enrichment in Spring 1

Dates for your Diary

We cannot even begin to put into words how much the children loved the 'Dive into the Ocean' topic last half-term. Their knowledge of sea creatures has developed tremendously and their writing... wow!!! Super proud teachers! The children also enjoyed a water safety talk offered by The Parks Trust. We now know what to do if we fall into water and are unable to swim; a very insightful and informative talk indeed. Of course, the children loved wearing their pyjamas on the last day of term to raise money for FoPR, as well as celebrating Chinese New Year. We also raised awareness by wearing a yellow accessory for Children's Mental Health. Well done team Year 1!



Thursday 6th March

World Book Day

Thursday 6th / Friday 7th / Monday 10th / Tuesday 11th March

The Book Fair – in school

Week Commencing 10th March

British Science Week

Thursday 20th March

Kings and Queens Day

Friday 21st March

Comic Relief

Friday 28th March

Deadline payment for Whipsnade Zoo

Friday 4th April

Sing off competition and term ends

Tuesday 22nd April

Summer 1 term starts

Wednesday 23rd April

Whipsnade Zoo trip

and finally...

It was wonderful to have the opportunity to see you face to face at parents' evening. It is a great pleasure to be able to celebrate the fantastic achievements your child is making. Thank you for all your continued support. We look forward to another half term of working together to support your wonderful children.

