

Year One Newsletter

Autumn 1 2024



A very warm welcome to all of the children and their families to Year 1 and a brand new school year full of exciting opportunities. We have enjoyed a fun packed start to the new school year and we are incredibly proud of how well the children are settling into their new classes and routines. The children thoroughly enjoyed our theme of 'Into the Jungle'. We listened to new stories, created animal art, discussed and wrote what we would take in our safari backpack, as well as singing lots of animal songs. Thank you so much for your support parents with the amazing costumes and helping your child settle so well, we really do appreciate it. You should be incredibly proud of your children; they have returned to school full of positivity and eagerness to learn, and we are all so excited for the year ahead. We can't wait to see what the rest of the school year has in store for us!

Reading

In Year 1 we continue following 'Little Wandle, Letters and Sounds Revised' for phonics and reading. Your child will be sent home with a reading book which matches their phonics level based on the end of year assessments from Reception next week. The children will be reassessed once we have completed the first 5 weeks of Year 1 phonics teaching. Children who are reading Phase 4 set 2 books will be benchmarked in the coming weeks and will bring home a colour banded book, in addition to their Phonics book, to read at home too.

Please ensure your child brings in their reading book every day.

Children use their Phonics book in their Guided Reading session and it can prove incredibly tricky if they do not have their book to hand as we do not have 'spare' copies. We encourage you to hear your child read their phonics book at least once a day, for 5-10 minutes, to develop their fluency. By the end of the week the children should be able to read most words by sight and with more fluency. Please make a note in their red reading record of when and what they have read and any comments you may have.



It is also helpful to talk about the book including the setting, characters, plot and making predictions. To support your child's reading comprehension we use VIPERS. You can find a copy of these on the school website under the Year 1 teaching and learning tab.

Library



Children in each Year 1 class will be able to visit the library again this year. They will be able to choose 1 book to share with you at home.

Please ensure that your child remembers to bring to school their library book on the relevant day so they get to change their book and experience a range of brilliant stories we have to offer.

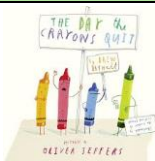
Percival Class	Monday
Jeffers Class	Tuesday
McKee Class	Wednesday

Marvellous Me

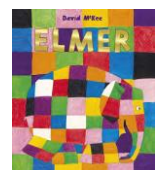
In Year 1 we use Marvellous Me to send out reminders, messages and most importantly, to celebrate the successes of our incredible children and to keep you informed what we have been learning about. You can access Marvellous Me via a browser or the Marvellous Me Parent app. A letter will be sent home with your parent access code soon. Please ensure you have activated your account so you can receive updates from the Year 1 team and receive messages about your child's learning and successes.



Year 1 Curriculum for the Autumn 1 Term – 'Past and Present'



We are beginning our journey in Year 1 with our thematic learning of the past and present. In English, the children are spending 2 weeks exploring the texts of each of our amazing Year 1 authors; Oliver Jeffers, Tom Percival and David McKee. The children will learn lots of facts about the different authors and focus on different stories that they have written. We will be using our phonemic knowledge to help us write simple sentences to retell parts of different narratives.



In Maths, Year 1 children will continue to consolidate their understanding of place value within 10 and begin to delve deeper into addition and subtraction.

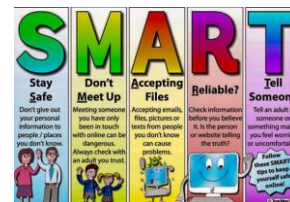


In Science, the children will be learning all about themselves, focussing on naming parts of the human body and the 5 senses. This links well to our theme of 'Being Me' in our Jigsaw lessons (PSHE) where we will learn about how special it is to be ourselves.

In History, the children will then explore toys from the modern day and throughout history which is where our 'Toy Making Workshop' will send them into a world of toys from the past.



To link with our theme of 'Past and Present', in Design Technology we will learn all about windmills; their purpose and how they are used now. The children will design, create then evaluate a windmill using wheels and axels.



In Computing, we will be developing our skills on Purple Mash, deepen our understanding of online safety and we will be creating a class pictogram.

This half term we are looking at the theme of friendship in RE and linking these to different religious stories. What an exciting half term ahead of us!

PE

PE and Games in Year 1 will take place with Mr Smyth and Mr Elkington on the following days:

Jeffers Class – Tuesday and Wednesday

McKee Class – Monday and Wednesday

Percival Class – Monday and Wednesday

Please ensure that your child comes to school on the days that they have PE wearing their full Priory Rise PE kit, including **black** plimsolls or **all black** trainers. Children with earrings must be able to either take them out or come into school with them already covered for health and safety reasons. **Please ensure all pieces of uniform are clearly labelled and identifiable for the children.**

Snacks and Water Bottles

At playtime fruit is provided for all children, but they are welcome to bring in their own healthy snack if they wish (please remember that we are a **nut-free** school as we have several children with significant and serious allergies).

We encourage children to drink plenty of water and to bring in a water bottle for them to use during school hours, that your child can open independently. They can refill these at school. Again, please ensure these are clearly **labelled** with your child's name. Thank you!

End of Day Dismissal – 3:10pm

Thank you for your patience and understanding when we dismiss the children at the end of the day. Our priority is the safety of the children, and we take great care in ensuring that children leave with their designated adult. We dismiss the children one at a time, and although this makes the process a little slower at the beginning of the year, it ensures that all children are handed over safely. The process will speed up once we know you all better and the children are in a routine. Please ensure you are at the correct gate at 3:10pm and you make your way to the front of the parent crowd as your child approaches the front of the line.

If another adult is picking up your child, please ensure that the office is informed, and the adult is written on their collection form. Thank you for your continued support in making the end of day dismissal a safe success.

Communication

If you have a message for your child's class teacher, you can either speak to us directly, or email the Year 1 teaching team on the following email address: year1@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

All teachers are able to access this email address and will respond as soon as they can and when convenient to them. Thank you!

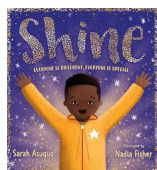
Toy Workshop

We are delighted to provide the opportunity for our Year 1 children to take part in a Toy Workshop which will take place on Monday 23rd September. You have already received a letter with details of this rich experience which is happening in school hours. Thank you to those families that have already paid the cost of this trip via Arbor. Please can I ask that the remaining families pay this by **Friday 20th September**. We also wanted to thank those parents that have made contact with class teachers to offer their help and volunteering to support the success of this experience. If anyone else is available to support, please speak to your class teacher. Thank you!

Recommended Reads

Mrs Reynolds recommends 'The Kissing Hand' by Audrey Penn because:

"This book warms my heart. It is about a family 'secret' that is used by Mrs Raccoon to help her son Chester ease his fears of starting school. The illustrations are absolutely beautiful too!"



Mrs Kalek recommends 'Shine' by Sarah Asuquo because:

"It is a great read! A heart-warming story which encourages young readers to celebrate diversity and to recognize how our differences make us special."

Mrs Fox recommends 'The Koala Who Could' by Rachel Bright because:

"It is a great reminder that with great support and love, we can achieve things we did not think were possible. It is also about the realisation that life can be super exciting when trying new things".



Miss Holman recommends 'Look Up!' by Nathan Byron because:

"I just love the celebration of the characters passion and joy. A great read if you love space and Science too!"

And finally...

Thank you for your patience, kindness and continued support so far! We cannot wait to make memories this year alongside all the fabulous learning of the curriculum that we have planned. Please do speak to your class teacher if you have any questions or queries.

thank you