

Dear Parents,

Please see attached the areas of the curriculum that the children in Year 1 will be covering in school this half term. As we do not set formal weekly homework in Year 1, we have set out a broad overview below. We hope that you will take the opportunity to explore these areas together at home and encourage your child to share relevant experiences and resources with their class. You might also want to plan weekend activities to take their imagination further - the local library is a great place to start!

Although the children cover a wide range of learning experiences at school, there are also valuable opportunities to extend their learning further within their home environment and the world around them. For example, your child could apply their maths skills through using coins to buy small items in your local shop. Your conversations with your child about what they are learning at school are important - further exploration and discussion can prove as beneficial as a written record. We suggest that you seize moments when your child is ready to discuss what they have been doing at school rather than scheduling a particular slot each day to 'work'. Our expectations of the children in Year 1 are high and, although we have lots of fun along the way, they will get very tired!

We have attached a list of the sounds that we are covering in 'Letters and Sounds' sessions this half term. Please focus on just a few sounds a week. Your child should practise saying these sounds before thinking of words containing each one and writing them down on the sheet. They could spot these sounds when reading too. We will send key words bookmarks home every couple of weeks. These are ones that don't follow familiar spelling patterns and just need to be learnt! Please encourage your child to learn to read these key words by sight recognition rather than trying to sound them out. They can also create sentences containing these words so they are used in context. If your child can read their words, please work on spelling them correctly. The children could practise their spellings by looking at the word first, saying it, then covering it up and having a go at spelling it themselves, before uncovering it and checking if they have spelt it correctly.

If there is anything else that you feel would support your child's learning then please come and talk to us. Our suggestions are by no means exhaustive - simply a guide to the sort of activities that we feel your child might respond to positively. If something works for your child then please do share it with us! Please let us know if you need another copy of your child's Athletics login.

Many thanks for your support,

The Year 1 Team

Homework Guidance - Year 1 - Autumn Term, First Half

	Focus	Suggestions of how to support	Websites and other resources
English	Reading	Please read every day with your child at home and record it in the reading record book. Ensure that your child points to each word as they say it -try to avoid pointing to the word for them, although you can do this together. Help your child to talk about their book - discuss what happens in the story, how the characters feel, what they think of the story etc.	<i>The Rainbow Fish</i> and other stories about animals. Visit the library.
	Handwriting	Practise correct pencil grip and cursive letter formation. Play games such as Pick up Sticks and Operation. Practise threading laces, beads etc. Practise letter formation using cursive letters, writing letters on lined paper or trace letters using tracing paper. Make a hand sock to support correct pencil grip.	Cursive letters sheet, tracing paper, string and beads etc. Sock with two holes for thumb and first finger.
	Labels & captions	Help your child to label their toy boxes or bookshelves or the jars in your store cupboard. Draw a picture of an animal and label it. Write a caption underneath.	Look for labels around you - at the shops, museum...
	Information texts	Write down information about animals using sub-headings to divide the information into sections, e.g. what it looks like, what it eats and where it lives.	Information books about animals. Websites such as http://ngkids.co.uk/animals
	Recounts	Write about an event in time order, using words like 'then', 'next', 'after that' and 'finally'. Write a letter or call a family member to share news. Learn the names and order of the days of the week. Practise writing the days of the week - can you learn to spell them correctly?	Calendar for learning days of the week and reflecting on important family events.
Letters & Sounds	Phonics	Complete and regularly revise the sounds on the attached phonics sheet. Practise the sounds and write down words which contain these sounds. How many words can you think of for each sound? Play letter sound games with your child. E.g. Can you see something beginning with ch? Create a 'ch' café using food items beginning with 'ch' such as cheese, chicken, chips, chocolate and cherries! The children enjoy watching Mr Thorne Does Phonics and Geraldine the Giraffe videos at school and they could watch these with you at home.	www.ictgames.co.uk CVC words, Consonant Clusters, High Frequency Words games. Mr Thorne Does Phonics on YouTube (under supervision).
Tricky words	Key words	Concentrate on reading the 5 words on the bookmark. Write or print them out in different fonts. Display them around the house. Can you find them in the book you are reading? Can you use them in sentences?	Magnetic letters and key words, Post-it notes.

	Focus	Suggestions of how to support	Websites and other resources
Maths	Numbers and counting	Read and write numbers to at least 20, in numerals and words. Read counting books and rhymes. Sing songs involving counting forwards and backwards. Count objects at home and when you are out and about such as grapes, pennies, red cars on a journey. Play games using dice and counters. Count in jumps of 2, 5 and 10. Group objects into sets of 2, 5 or 10 and then count the total number of objects e.g. pairs of socks, glove fingers.	Mathletics website. www.ictgames.co.uk also has many activities to support numeracy activities. Objects for counting.
	Addition and subtraction	Ask maths questions during daily activities e.g. You have 2 fish fingers and your sister has 3 fish fingers, how many do you have altogether? You have 6 teddies, if one falls off the bed how many are left? Sing counting songs such as 'Five Little Speckled Frogs' and 'Ten Fat Sausages'.	Objects for adding and subtracting.
	2D shapes	Look for shapes in the environment. Draw round the base of object found in the home e.g. bowls, bricks, boxes - what shape are they? Can you draw a picture using 2D shapes? e.g. circle for a body, rectangles for arms.	2D shapes around the house.
	Length	Compare lengths of objects such as spaghetti and pencils and place them in order of size. Guess how many steps it takes to cross a room - were you right? Compare lengths of rooms in the house using steps. Measure and compare the height of family and friends on a long strip of paper or the back of a door!	Objects and people for comparing length and height (use vocabulary such as shorter, shortest, longer, longest, taller, tallest).
Topic	Amazing Animals	Find out about different types of animals. Discuss how to care for animals. Encourage your child to help look after family pets. Visit a farm or a zoo!	Pets and garden birds. Books and television programmes about animals.
Science	Weather	Observe and talk about changes in the weather and the seasons. Go on a nature walk and identify signs of Autumn. Collect small items to look at more closely. Bring particularly interesting items into school for our nature tray.	Weather forecasts. Magnifying glass. The natural world around us!