

WELCOME TO YEAR 1

Welcome to Year 1! We hope the following information will be useful.

### English

This term we will be looking at a range of stories, exploring characters and settings, as well as sequencing events. We will focus on using capital letters to begin sentences and full stops at the end. We will be studying poetry, themed around animals, and will look at rhyming patterns. We will continue our phonics program and practise handwriting regularly. Also, throughout this term there will be a heavy emphasis on developing children's vocabulary and speaking and listening through role play and drama.

### Maths

This term the focus will be on ordering and using numbers to 20, with a strong emphasis on bonds to 10 and then onto 20. This will include counting, adding and subtracting with objects and then developing confidence in recording calculations. The children will practise counting on and back, counting in tens, and they will work on the concept of one more and less to 20. Other maths topics for this term are length, time, direction and 2D shapes.



### Science

We hope to have a stimulating and exciting term with our science topics. The children will work practically investigating animals and their needs. They will be sorting and classifying animals and consider their natural habitats. They will also focus on the topic 'Materials', exploring the properties of different materials and investigating the best material for different purposes.



### Computing

The children will continue to learn basic skills, such as using the mouse, selecting items, typing simple words and matching labels to pictures. In addition, they will use a range of programs to support all areas of the curriculum with a focus on exploration and trial.



### Music

The children will explore a range of percussion instruments and develop their confidence distinguishing between the different sounds they make. They will also learn a variety of new songs linked to their topics.



### PE

The children will respond to music through dance and develop an awareness of rhythm and space. Outdoor PE will focus on developing motor skills through the use of a variety of equipment and working cooperatively in small groups.



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## RE

The first half term we will develop our familiarity and understanding of The Lord's Prayer. The second half of the term will focus on the importance of Christmas. We will explore different themes through whole school festivals, such as Harvest and link these to the school values, including; thankfulness, peace and compassion.



## Geography/History

This work will be closely linked to our topic on the local area. The children will look at famous buildings in Teddington, as well as considering how the area has changed over time. They will also gain an increased understanding of the United Kingdom and use atlases to develop their map skills.

## Art and D&T



The children will work with a variety of media and use colour mixing, patterns and collage to create art work. They will work with pastels, sketch portraits and express opinions about various artists' work. Many Art and D&T activities will be linked to our topics, for example creating a tactile material book and designing a home for a pet.

## General Information

### PE KITS

PE kits should remain in school all week. Please make sure children's PE kits are named and check regularly that plimsolls still fit. During the colder winter months, we would appreciate it if you could supply a pair of dark tracksuit bottoms for outside PE. Please encourage your children to put on their own shoes and socks as this can be a time-consuming task when helping 30 children! Thank you.

### READING BOOKS AND DIARIES

Please ensure your child brings their reading book and diary in to school every day.

### ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE

We have had a great start to the term and have been impressed with those children coming in independently in the mornings. Please continue to encourage them to enter the classroom by themselves and organise their belongings independently.

### HOMEWORK

Please prioritise reading at home with your child as much as you can. Later in the term we will be sending home phonics books to be completed weekly. On occasion, we may also ask the children to complete topic-specific home learning tasks.

### BITS AND PIECES

We would greatly appreciate it if you could provide your child with a glue-stick and a box of tissues to aid classroom management. We are also constantly in need of any 'junk modelling' materials and are always grateful for any donations.

We thank you for your support and look forward to a happy and successful year. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have.

Kind Regards,  
Miss Power (Cedar), Miss Beales (Beech), Mr Kearns (Maple)