



Class 1 (YR, Y1 and Y2)



'Ourselves'

Welcome back, and especially welcome to the new parents to the school whose children have just entered Class 1. I look forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks.

It is now the beginning of the Autumn term, where we will be covering the topic 'Ourselves'.

We have begun by looking at our body, naming body parts including the skeleton, talking and writing 'about me' including painting self-portraits and learning new songs. We will be looking at all aspects of the human body, how it works and our similarities and differences. We will be having a visit from the school nurse who will be discussing the importance of good hygiene including brushing teeth and hand washing. We will enjoy cooking and tasting a variety of food and discussing healthy eating.

To support our RE topic of 'families' if you have any family photographs of your children that could help your child through this topic please send these to school for our display. We have already been busy walking around the local area looking at where the children live as part of our geography and understanding of the world topic.

We visited local shops, the community centre and had juice in the café where the children demonstrated impeccable behaviour and manners. We have been looking at the children's addresses and the importance of learning these. If your child does not know their address could you please help them learn this? The children that do know their address are very proud of themselves reciting it to the class.

We will be hopefully taking further educational visits to the local church, the library and to the woods where we will be looking for signs of autumn, collecting objects for art work to be completed back at school. We will be discussing the change in the time of year.



In Literacy we will be using the stories of 'The Stickman' and also 'The Gruffalo' to support our writing and reading skills.



We will be looking at sentence level skills, as well as writing descriptions, retelling stories using story props, writing recounts and diary entries.



If your child has a favourite story relating to our topics covered this term they are welcome to bring this in to share with the class.

We will be using topic based work throughout maths, to support data handling activities, measuring and counting.

We will be looking at children around the world to lead into our next topic of 'Celebrations'.

As well as our topic work, we will also be continuing our phonics work each morning. Year 1 and 2 will also continue their guided reading sessions as well as phonics sessions each day to begin their literacy session.

Some things to note

Reading books and folders

Please check your child's reading folder each night for letters and homework. Please ensure your child brings book bags each day, allowing us to change tasks and reading books.

Supporting your child at home

The most important teacher in a child's life are its parents. Parental support is vital for a child to reach their full potential at school. Therefore it is essential that children are:

- listened to read at home each night and are read to as often as possible including bedtime in order to develop their imagination, vocabulary and language
- helped to practice their phonics or number work regularly at home
- play fun educational maths games for instance snakes and ladders, dominoes, frustration and other games involving dice and counting on
- completing floor puzzles which develop children's concentration, patience, perseverance and spatial awareness
- playing games which will develop children's memory for instance Pairs, Snap, Memory Pairs
- talking about the change in the weather, the seasons, the day of the week, what they have been doing at school
- developing strong muscles in their fingers for instance by playing with play dough, painting, drawing, taking part in cutting and sticking activities, colouring in pictures, completing dot-to-dots. If a child fails to complete these activities daily they will have difficulty forming letters correctly
- practising handwriting and writing for instance in a diary

Thank you for your support in your child's education.

Dates and times to remember

PE	Tuesday + Friday pm
Parent drop in session	Monday mornings 8.45 – 9.15 am
Homework given:	Friday (Spelling test is the following Friday)
Homework returned to school:	Monday
Spelling test:	Friday