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**Executive Head Teacher:** Mr A.Sunner

**Head of School:** Mr J.Downs

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Year 1 parents/carers,

## **Year 1 Curriculum Letter - Autumn (1<sup>st</sup> half)**

### **Message from the teachers**

We are very excited to welcome the children back to school and into year 1. The start of Key Stage 1 is a big change for the children as they move into more formal and structured lessons, but this means that there is also lots of new learning to look forward to. This letter will briefly outline some of the topics that year 1 will have fun exploring through the first half of the autumn term.

### **Our Core Values**

Happiness: we spread joy to those around us.

Compassion: we care and are kind to all.

Respect: we treat others as we like to be treated.

Teamwork: we work well with everyone.

### **Year 1 Staffing**

Redwood class teacher: Miss Wilcox

Ash class teacher: Miss McAuliffe

Year 1 learning support assistants: Miss Dempsey and Miss Perez

### **Communication**

Please feel free to arrange a meeting should you wish to speak to one of the teachers in person. Alternatively, you can email class teachers directly on the class email accounts and we will do our best to get back to you within a couple of working days.

[Redwoodclass@harefieldinfant.com](mailto:Redwoodclass@harefieldinfant.com)

[Ashclass@harefieldinfant.com](mailto:Ashclass@harefieldinfant.com)

### **Homework**

Each child will receive a printed copy of the homework every Friday. Please return the homework to your class teacher on the following Friday.

We use the 'Read Write Inc' approach to teaching early reading and phonics. Every Monday your child will be given a phonics book to practice reading at home. Please return the book to school on Friday of the same week.

### **Library**

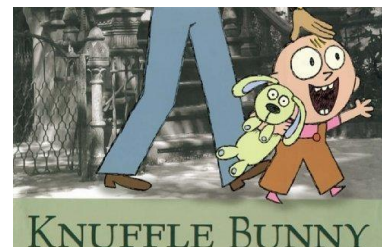
Each Friday, both classes will visit the school library and borrow a book to read at home. Please ensure your child returns this book to school by the following Friday.

## Autumn Term Learning

This half term we will be learning the following in each subject area.

### English

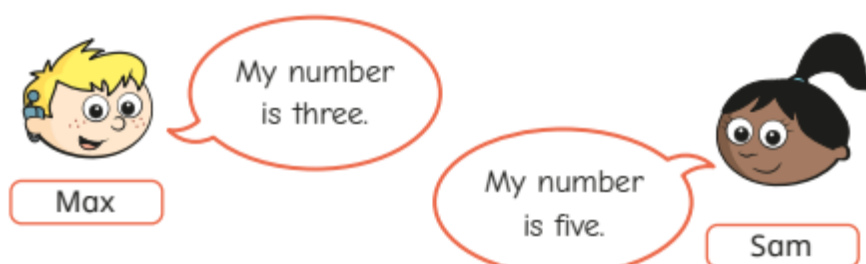
Year 1 will be reading the book 'Knuffle Bunny' by Mo Willems which is a story about a lost teddy. They will use this to help them to create their own stories about a character losing a special toy. Later this half term, Year 1 will continue to use Knuffle Bunny and other linked texts to write an instruction text about how to build a bear.



### Mathematics

In maths this half term, Year 1 will be learning about place value and the value of numbers. They will learn to count forwards and backwards within 10, compare numbers to see which is greater or lesser than the other and learn to place values in order.

Max and Sam are thinking of a number.

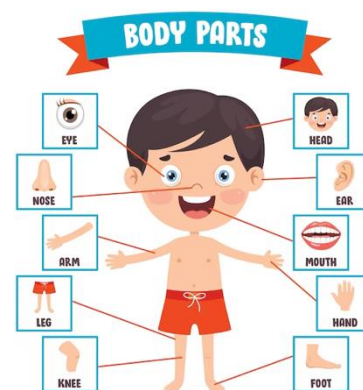


Whose number is greater?

How do you know?

### Science

This half term's science unit is called 'The Human Body'. The children will name, draw and identify parts of the human body. They will also explore the five human senses and the body parts responsible. Towards the end of the term, the children will be observing the seasonal changes that happen during Autumn and will develop their data collection and recording skills.



### Geography



The Year 1 geography unit this term is called 'Our Local Area'. The children will develop their locational knowledge whilst learning about maps, map-making, and symbols. They will build place vocabulary to define where they live, which is supported by fieldwork experiences including a walk around Harefield.

### **Computing**

This half term's computing unit is called 'Word Processing Skills'. The children will learn how to type with two hands, use the shift, space and enter key properly, and edit work by using the backspace, delete and arrow keys.



### **Art and Design**



'Drawing: Make your Mark' is the name of the Art unit this term, where the Year 1 children will learn about creating artwork with straight lines, using wave formations and experimenting with media such as overlapping 2D shapes. They will complete the unit by creating a piece of art from observing objects around the classroom.

### **Physical Education**

P.E. will be taking place in Year 1 on a Monday and a Thursday. Please ensure you send your child to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days.

The outdoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Multi skills: Throwing and catching', where the children will explore how to control a ball when they are rolling, bouncing, throwing and catching, on their own, with a partner and in a group. They will also develop tracking and receiving skills, which are essential skills for playing ball games.

The indoor P.E. unit this term is called 'Gymnastics: Animals' and the children will learn to lift, carry and use gymnastic apparatus safely. Children will also learn to travel safely in different ways, at different speeds and levels.

### **Religious Education**

Year 1 will be learning about 'Friendships' in R.E. this term. They will be thinking about what it means to be a good friend and the qualities they have which make them good friends. They will consider how they can be a good friend to others and think about what happens when friends disagree and argue.

### **Music**

We are very fortunate to have a specialist music teacher in school every Tuesday to teach Year 1 music lessons, focusing on singing and percussion.

### **Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education**

The P.S.H.E unit 'Being Me in My World' will introduce the children to the rights and responsibilities that they can expect and discuss how that the choices they make has an impact on the people around them. The unit will finish with the children collectively making a learning charter that helps everyone in Year 1 to feel safe and valued.

Please feel free to contact us via the class email accounts should you have any questions over the term ahead.

Yours faithfully

Miss McAuliffe and Miss Wilcox  
Year 1 teachers