

Wednesday 23rd April 2025

Dear Year 1 parents/carers,

Year 1 Curriculum Letter – Summer (1st half)

Message from the teachers

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a restful Easter break. The next half term is full of exciting school events to look forward to such as Sports Day and Art week. This letter will briefly outline some of the learning that year 1 will enjoy exploring through the first half of the summer 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

Ashclass@harefieldinfant.com

Homework

Homework, along with answers, will be sent out every Friday to be returned the following Friday. Spelling tests will take place every Friday.

Reading at home

Phonics reading books will be sent out every Friday. These are to be returned the following Friday.

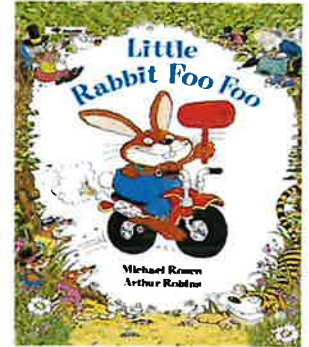
We will also visit the school library each Friday on a weekly basis, from where the children can select a book to borrow and read at home. Please return these books to school by the following Thursday. New home reading books and library books will not be issued until the previous ones have been returned.

Summer Term Learning

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

English

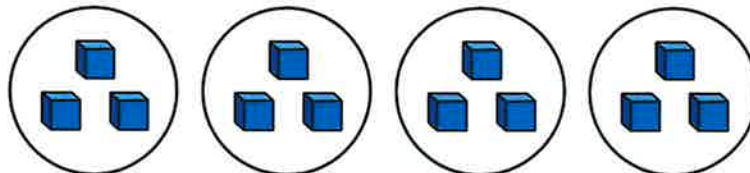
Year 1 will be reading 'Little Rabbit Foo Foo' by Michael Rosen, a story about a misbehaving rabbit who ignores warnings and faces the consequences for his actions. We will use this idea to write 'warning tale' stories, where a main character is warned three times to behave themselves and there is a consequence for not doing so.



Mathematics

In maths this half term, we will continue learning about mass and volume. Later in the term, we will be learning about multiplication and division, where the children will revisit counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and making doubles. They will learn how to group and share equally and how to make arrays. Later in the term, we will also learn about fractions.

Here are some groups of cubes.



Ron

The cubes are
in groups of 4

The cubes are in
groups of 3



Jo

Who do you agree with?

Explain your answer.



Science

The science topic this half term is called 'Plants' – attached is a knowledge organiser with further information on what the children will be learning about in this unit.

Physical Education

P.E. will be taking place in Year 1 on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure you send your child to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days. This half term Ash Class will be attending Forest School on a Monday, and therefore only doing PE on a Thursday. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear.

The outdoor P.E. unit this term is focused on running and jumping. The children will develop their understanding of different ways of travelling and different types of jumps. They will learn to travel at different speeds by walking, jogging, running and sprinting, and develop an understanding of when these speeds are most useful.

The indoor P.E. this term is called 'Gymnastics: Traditional Tales'. This unit of gymnastics provides opportunities for the children to learn and practise a variety of skills, including travelling movements, rolls, jumps and balances.



Design & Technology

The DT unit this half term is called 'Sensational Salads'. Children will learn key information about healthy eating and where their food comes from. They will gain some practical ideas about ingredients that can be combined to make interesting and healthy salads



History

The History unit this half term is called 'Travel and transport'—attached is a knowledge organiser with further information on what the children will be learning about in this unit.

Religious Education

Year 1 will be learning all about Religions and Rituals in their R.E. lessons this half term — attached is a knowledge organiser with further information on what the children will be learning about in this unit.

Music

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





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Executive Head Teacher: Mr A.Sunner

Head of School: Mr J.Downs



Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education

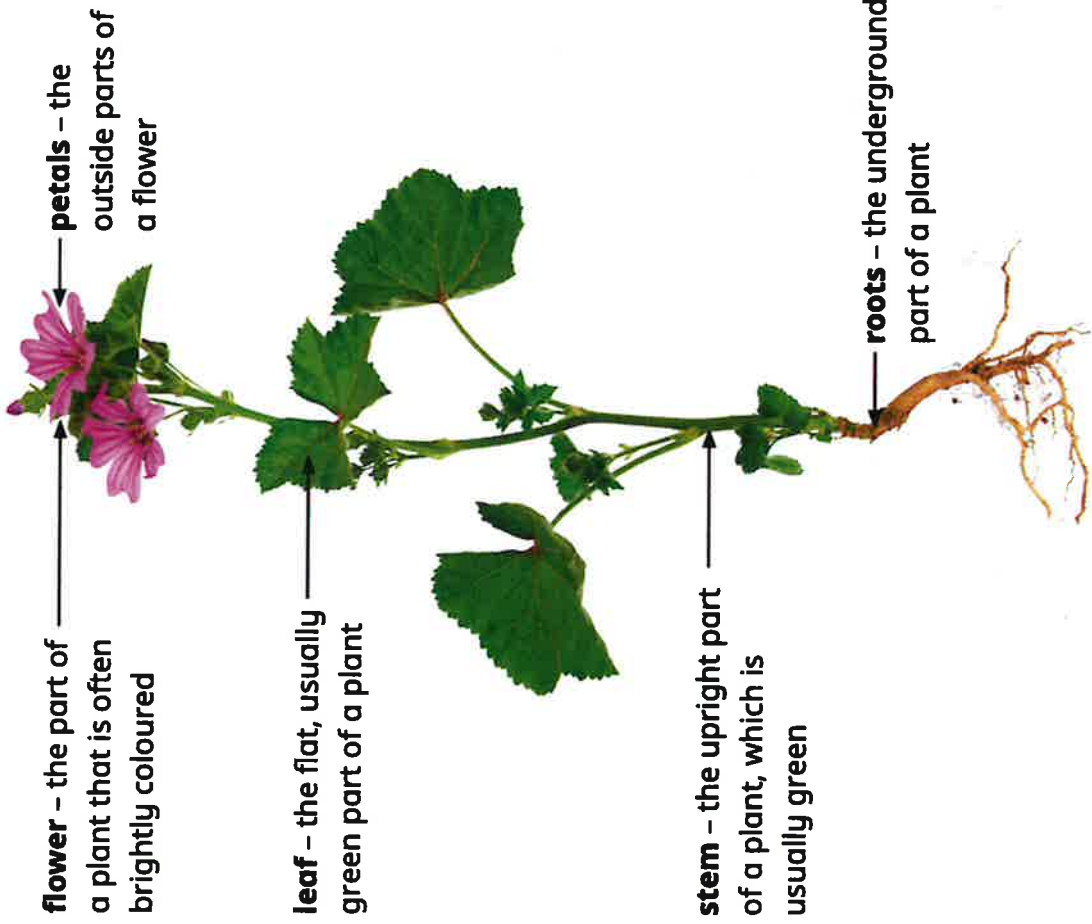
'Relationships' is the PSHE unit for Year 1 this half term. We will discuss the important relationships the children have in their lives such as family and friends and why those relationships are important. The children will also recognise those who help them in their daily lives.

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

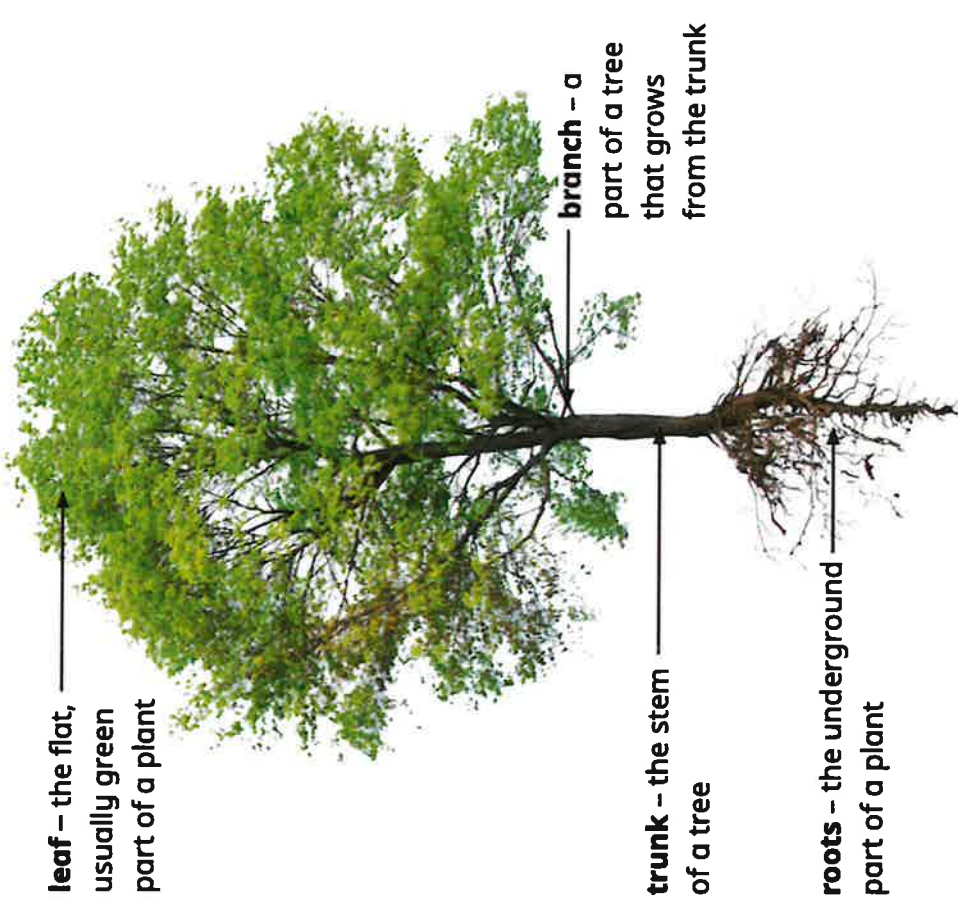
Yours faithfully

Ms McAuliffe and Miss Wilcox
Year 1 teachers

Key vocabulary



Key vocabulary



- **fruit** – a part of a plant that contains seeds and can be eaten as food

Key vocabulary

- **deciduous tree** – a type of tree that loses its leaves in autumn



- **leaf** – the flat, usually green part of a plant



- **horse chestnut** – a deciduous tree with small leaflets on one stalk



- **oak** – a deciduous tree with leaves that have a wavy edge



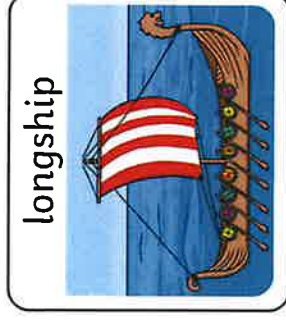
- **sycamore** – a deciduous tree with large, toothed leaves



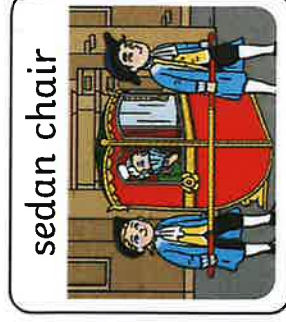
Knowledge

- Plants have many parts, each with a name.
- Flowering plants have flowers, stems, roots and leaves.
- Trees are a type of plant, which can be different shapes and sizes.
- Trees have roots, a trunk, branches and leaves.
- Some trees have fruit.
- Wildflowers have not been chosen by humans to grow in their garden.
- Garden plants have been chosen to grow in gardens.
- There are different plants in our local area.
- Deciduous trees lose their leaves in autumn.
- Evergreen trees keep their leaves all year round.
- Holly and pine trees are evergreen.

carriage	A place that people can sit in to be pulled along by a horse or a train's engine.
travel	Moving from one place to another.
transport	Carrying people or goods from one place to another.
steam engine	A steam engine uses steam from boiling water to make it move. The steam pushes the moving parts.
electric cars	Electric cars use electricity to make the motor turn.
petrol	Petrol is the fuel used in petrol engines to make cars move.
railway	A railway is the track that trains run on.
motor	A motor turns energy into movement so that things (such as cars and trains) can move.



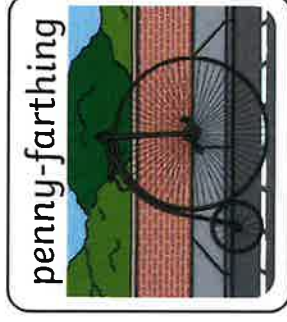
longship



sedan chair



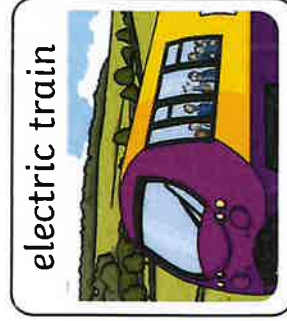
horse and cart



penny-farthing



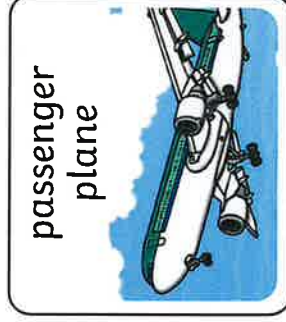
steam train



electric train



Wright Flyer



passenger plane



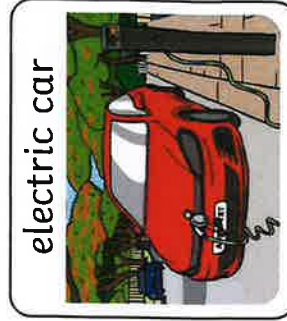
early Benz motor car



early Ford motor car



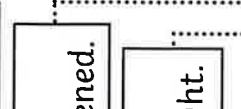
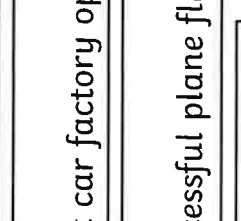
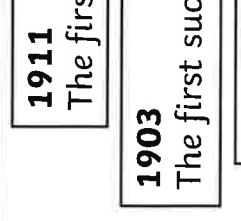
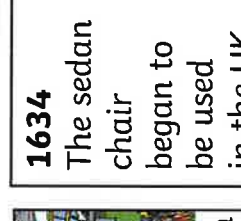
petrol car



electric car

Key Vocabulary

What are longships?	The Vikings travelled in longships. They travelled to explore other countries and to trade.
What were the first trains like?	The first trains had steam engines . Smoke could be seen coming out of the chimney at the front.
When was the first passenger train?	In 1830, people could travel on trains for the first time.
Who built and flew the first aeroplane?	In 1903, the Wright brothers were the first people to successfully fly in an aeroplane. They built it themselves.
When were cars first made in factories?	In 1908, Henry Ford made a car called the Model T. It was the first car to be made in a factory and lots of these cars were made.



700AD – 1100 AD
The Viking Age.

1605
The Gunpowder Plot

1829
Stephenson built the Rocket.

1860
The Nightingale School of Nursing opens



Key Vocabulary

	<p>A ritual is similar to a ceremony. In a ritual, a series of things is done in a special order. Rituals are sometimes done every week, or every day, or at special times. They often have religious or spiritual significance.</p>
<p>ritual</p>	<p>One of the Five Pillars of Islam (the 'rules' that Muslims follow to live a good life). It is a type of prayer that should be performed five times every day.</p>
<p>salat</p>	<p>A Muslim place of worship.</p>
<p>mosque</p>	<p>A holy city in Saudi Arabia.</p>
<p>Mecca</p>	<p>A movement of the body. A gesture could involve moving any part of your body including your hands or head. It is a way of communicating without talking.</p>

Rituals

A **ritual** often includes certain things:

- repetition of actions or words
- special objects used in a particular way
- a special order in which things are done
- a focus or theme, perhaps praying to God

Rituals are used by people in religion to help them remember things, to help them focus on God (or an important idea from their religion) and as part of praying to, or worshipping, their god.

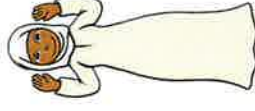


Salat

Prayer (**salat**) is an important part of the Islamic faith. **Salat** should be performed five times every day. These times are at dawn, midday, late in the afternoon, after sunset and in the dark of the night. **Salat** is often performed in a **mosque** but it can be done anywhere. Muslims may use a prayer mat. Muslims make sure that they are facing **Mecca** when they are praying. When Muslims pray, they perform sets of movements and **gestures**.

These include starting the prayer by standing up, raising their hands to their ears and saying, 'Allahu Akbar' (which means 'God is great'). This is called **Niyat**. Other actions include **Ruku**, dropping into a prayer position with their hands on their knees, looking at their feet and saying the prayer words. **Sudjood** is another action. In this, Muslims kneel with their hands, feet and face towards the ground and say the prayer words.

Niyat



Ruku



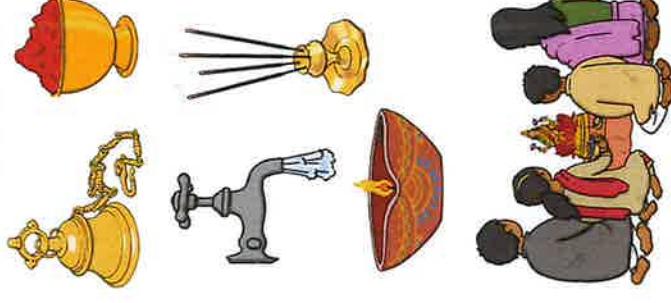
Sudjood



Key Vocabulary	
punja	A type of worship (used in Hinduism) featuring prayer to a god.
Shrine	A holy space for worshipping. It often includes a picture of the thing being worshipped.
murtis	Special images that represent a Hindu god.
Holy Communion	A ritual that some Christians take part in to remember Jesus, his death and how it meant that Christians were saved from sin.

Puja

Hindu worship is called **puja**. It can be performed at home or in a Hindu temple. It is often performed at a **shrine**. Before performing the **ritual** prayer of **puja**, Hindus remove their shoes to show respect for God. They chant prayers (mantras) and they give offerings to the **murtis** such as fruit, water and flowers. This is to show their love and respect for the gods, just as a host would want to offer food and drink to a visitor. When the **puja** has finished, Hindus share and eat the food. They believe this food is blessed after it has been offered to the deities. This blessed food is known as 'prashad'. 'Aum' is chanted during **puja**, incense is burned to make the air pure, a bell is rung and red dots are placed on the foreheads of the worshippers and of the **murtis**. A diva lamp is lit and the **murtis** are offered a drink of water from a spoon. Hindus believe that they feel closer to their gods when they speak to them using all of their senses. All the senses are used during the **ritual** of **puja**.



Holy Communion

Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God. They believe he came to earth and lived as a real human being. Christians believe that Jesus died on a cross and that his death meant that all the bad things (sins) that humans did could be forgiven. They believe that he knew he was going to die. Before he died, he had a last meal with his closest friends, who were called his disciples. It was called the Last Supper. During this meal, he shared bread and wine with his closest followers. He said the bread was his body and the wine was his blood. During services, Christians may perform a ritual known as the **Holy Communion**. They eat a small piece of bread and take a sip of wine or grape juice. Prayers are read out during **Holy Communion**. They help Christians remember Jesus, the importance of the Last Supper and his sacrifice.

