

Year 1 Summer Term 1 Newsletter - April 2026



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the new school term. We hope you and your family had lovely Easter and spent lots of lovely family time with friends and loved ones. We are so excited to get started with our new half-term planned with lots of exciting learning opportunities for your child. This newsletter includes information regarding curriculum information and important reminders and dates for your diary. Our topic this half-term is On Safari and we are so thrilled to be learning all Africa. A knowledge organiser for our history and science topics has been sent home at the end of last term. Please have a look at these with your child to familiarise them with the vocabulary that will be coming up this half term. This is a great tool to support the retention of new knowledge around our topic. We hope you find it useful. We look forward to an exciting term working with you and your child.

The Year One Team.

PE



PE for both classes is on **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Please could you ensure your child has their **full PE kit**, including appropriate footwear, e.g. trainers, in school, as we may go outside weather permitting. Please can you make sure your child's earring are removed on P.E days.

CLOTHING

As you may have already noticed the weather is warming up. Please can you ensure that your child's jumper or cardigan is labelled. Please can you also ensure your child has a water bottle everyday.

Please could we ask all parents to ensure you apply an all day suncream to your child before school. Please also ensure your child has a clearly labelled sun hat.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY– More info to follow

Here are those all important dates for your diary:

Thursday 30th April- Phonics Screening Information afternoon. 3:00



READING AT HOME

We hope you are enjoying reading at home. Every child now has a reading book and a 'Belton Lane Library' book. We just want to remind you to bring in your **reading books** and diary each day. This allows us to read their new book with them. Your '**Belton Lane Library**' book you may keep for a bit longer but we will be changing them on Wednesday. Some children are close to 100 reads and will be receiving a special prize.

PHONICS

The National Phonics Screening takes place during the week of 8th June. We are busy practicing reading real and alien words at school.

We have sent home a phonics pack and one of the past papers for you to practice with your child. Please come and join us on Thursday 30th April at 3:00 to find out more.

What will we be learning this half term?

Please take a look below at what we will be learning in each subject area as part of our 'On Safari' topic.

English

We begin this half term by focusing on writing a recount of our trip to Wollaton Hall. Our focus text for this half term will be 'The Ugly Five'.

at the Children will be writing 'Just So' stories from Africa such as 'How the Zebra got its Stripes and 'How the Crocodile Got its Skin' and your child will use their story writing skills to write their own versions.

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Maths

In maths this term we are going to be busy revising and covering lots of different skills we have learnt over the year so far. We have managed to cover so much in maths this year now we will be consolidating and extending those skills. We will be looking at place value and being able to expand our number knowledge to 100. We will be expanding our skills of multiplication and begin to understand what division is and how to share in equal groups. We will also be covering lots of measure in maths this term and becoming more confident in telling the time, understanding weight and length and being able to recognise coins and notes. We will also be carrying on our daily practice in getting to know our 2s, 5s and 10s.

PE

The children will be moving onto our athletics focus to ensure they are ready for Sport's Day! We will also be looking at developing our fitness and striking and fielding.

Computing - Introduction to Data

Gathering and recording animal data

Children learn what data is and the different ways that it can be represented, both with and without a computer before developing their understanding

RE

This half term your child will be learning about how the birth of a new baby is celebrated in different religions. If they have any experiences of baptism or other religious or non-religious ceremonies please upload photographs to SeeSaw for us to share in class.

Design Technology

Our DT this half term will focus on food, or more specifically fruit and vegetables. Children will learn how to identify fruits and vegetables and then design and make a fruit smoothie.

Science

In Science this half term the children will go on safari to explore invertebrates and other plants and animals in the local area and further afield. They will learn to describe and compare a variety of common animals including fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals.

Geography

A Contrasting Locality- Hot and Cold Places

Children will know which clothes they should wear in hot and cold places and why people tend to like hot places for their holidays. Children will know some of the main things that are in hot and cold places. They will be able to record the weather on a weather chart. They will be able to talk about the seasons in the UK and another country and compare the weather in each place.

Music

Children listen and respond to music, representing animals using their bodies and instruments. They learn and perform a song, and compose a short section of music as a group using their voices and instruments and are able to keep a steady pulse.