

Topics

In Key Stage 1 we use topics as a vehicle for the children's learning. We choose topics which are enjoyable for the children but also cover the key elements of the National Curriculum. Each half term we send out a topic leaflet to show what the topic will be and to explain the objectives within that topic. Daily Maths and English lessons are linked to the topic, where appropriate, to enhance children's learning and enjoyment.

Homework

Year 1's homework will predominately focus on weekly spellings and reading. We appreciate how tired your children are after the school day and realise these lucky children do a lot of other activities outside of school.

Year 2's homework will focus on reading, spellings and a topic themed homework project each half term. In addition to this we may add homework stickers in the homework diary with Mental Maths skills to practise at home.

Homework is not supposed to be a chore but an enjoyable experience where children can share their learning with parents and family members. Please speak to your child's teacher if there are any problems with your child's learning at home.

Reading

It is essential that you read with your child, and they read to you, as frequently as possible but as a minimum requirement, we suggest **10-15 minutes, five nights a week**. This should be recorded in your child's homework diary. When you read to your child, you're building their vocabulary, language and literacy skills while improving concentration, curiosity and memory. Reading builds comprehension and critical-thinking skills and also promotes spelling and grammar acquisition. Not only this, but reading with your child after a busy day allows you to spend some quality time with each other and can help settle your child before bedtime to ensure they have a good night's rest!

Handwriting

Once children are confidently forming all of their letters correctly then we teach the cursive script, following Letter Join. All children in Year 2 should be joining by the end of the year. If children are consistently writing using a joined script, across all subjects, then they will be rewarded with a pen license and be allowed to write using a pen in the classroom.

Spellings

At the beginning of each new half-term, pupils will be given all their words to revise for the forthcoming weeks. Spelling tests will take place **every Friday morning** and your child's results will be tracked across the year. Please see your child's class teacher if you need additional copies of these word lists. Please help your child learn their spellings at home throughout the week in preparation for their weekly test; most children find the 'look, cover, write, check' method very successful.

Uniform

Please ensure your child has a blue school cardigan or jumper, white shirt or polo shirt and black or grey trousers / skirt / pinafore. Pupils must have appropriate black school shoes – no trainers please. We would also like to remind you that we have a strict no jewellery policy; pupils may wear one set of *plain* stud earrings only. No extravagant hair-bands or hair accessories are permitted. Thank you for your support with this matter.

PE Kit

Due to current restrictions, children are unable to change in school for P.E. Therefore, we ask that your child comes to school dressed in their P.E. kit on their set P.E. days. P.E. will be carried out outside whenever possible so please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. It may be useful to send in a change of shoes in the event of a wet/muddy session.

P.E. days are:

Year 1; Tuesday and Thursday

Year 2: Tuesday and Wednesday

Assessment

As per the latest Government guidance, all assessments will be taking place as usual for the 2020/21 academic year. This includes the Year 2 SATs and the Phonics Screen Test for children in Year 1.

The Year 2 SATs will take place in May, 2021 and the Phonics Screen will take place in June 2021.

Due to school closure because of lockdown, children in Year 2 did not do the phonics Screen whilst they were in Year 1, under Government guidelines, they will complete this test, with Mrs Southern, during the Autumn Term.

Tapestry

We are delighted that Year 1 will be able to continue using their Tapestry accounts to track pupils progress but also keep communication pathways open with parents/carers and members of staff. Please continue to share with us all the amazing things your child is doing.

Attendance

Good attendance in each class is celebrated every week during Celebration Assembly and is shared on the school newsletter and website. The school closely monitors pupil absence and minutes of learning time lost due to lateness; should a pupil's attendance or level of punctuality cause concern, this will be reported to the Education Welfare Officer. Please note that leave is unlikely to be granted for the purposes of a family holiday. If a child is absent from school due to illness, this should be reported to the office.

Safeguarding

The safety and well-being of your child are paramount. Please could you ensure that you inform school as soon as possible should anyone other than parents/guardians be collecting your child from school.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN LINE WITH COVID-19 GUIDANCE, PARENTS WISHING TO TALK TO CLASS TEACHERS MUST CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. WE WILL AIM TO GET BACK TO YOU THE SAME DAY, WHEN POSSIBLE.

Key Dates for your Diary

<u>HOLIDAY OR OCCASION OF CLOSURE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL CLOSE</u>	<u>DATE ON WHICH SCHOOL WILL REASSEMBLE</u>
Summer 2020	Friday 17 July 2020	Tuesday 1 September 2020
October Mid-Term 2020	Friday 23 October 2020	Monday 2 November 2020
Christmas/New Year 2020/2021	Friday 18 December 2020	Monday 4 January 2021
Spring Mid-Term 2021	Friday 12 February 2021	Monday 22 February 2021
Easter 2021	Friday 26 March 2021	Monday 12 April 2021
Summer Mid-Term 2021	Friday 28 May 2021	Monday 7 June 2021
Summer 2021	Friday 16 July 2021	*Monday 6 September 2021

Welcome to Key Stage 1 !



Year 1 – Miss Nelson, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Batey
Year 2 – Mrs Southern, Mrs Broadbent and Mrs Noble