

Meet the staff

Mrs Ely – Cherry class teacher
Miss Holden – Holly class teacher

Support Staff:

Mrs Levantine Mrs Simmons

Welcome

to *Year 1*

Holly & Cherry



If there is something you wish to discuss with your child's teacher please make an arrangement to see them at the end of the day. Quick queries may be answered at the beginning/end of the day where possible.

Topic

This half term our topic is '**Paws, Claws, Whiskers, Hands and Feet**'. We will explore this topic through different areas of the curriculum and it will act as a stimulus for speaking and listening, writing, science, art and dance. The children will learn about humans and animals, particularly domestic animals and pets. This topic will provide opportunities for the children to study different animals and to sort them using a variety of criteria.

Forest School

Throughout the term the children will engage in outdoor Forest School activities. They will need to have a warm coat in school each day and if possible some wellies so that they can go on the field even when wet.
Thank you.

This half term our PE days are **Mondays** and **Fridays**. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school on these days each week. **Our PE kit is: navy/black shorts and a white/red t-shirt.** Some jogging bottoms and a PE sweat shirt would also be advisable as the weather turns colder.

On Monday they will be taught dance linked to our topic by a specialist dance teacher. On Friday afternoons the children will participate in core skills activities run by Premier Sport. Weather permitting, this will take place outside on the playground or on the school field so the children will need suitable footwear e.g. trainers or plimsolls.

English

English is taught daily and children's work is recorded in individual books.

Here are some of the 'end of Year 1' writing targets:

- naming the letters of the alphabet in order
- using the spelling rule for adding -s or -es as the plural marker for nouns and the third person singular marker for verbs
- using the prefix un-
- using -ing, -ed, -er and -est where no change is needed in the spelling of root words [for example, helping, helped, helper, eating, quicker, quickest]
- read aloud their writing clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher
- using a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I'
- discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils

In the **Spring** Term children will get a book with spellings to practise every week.

Maths

The principal focus of mathematics teaching in Year 1 is to ensure that pupils develop confidence and mental fluency with whole numbers, counting and place value. Pupils will be taught to:

- count to and across 100, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, or from any given number; count, read and write numbers to 100 in numerals; count in multiples of twos, fives and tens
- read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals (=) signs
- represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20; add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including zero; solve one-step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations, and missing number problems such as $7 = ? - 9$.

Phonics

Phonics is taught daily throughout Year 1 by all staff.

At the end of Year 1 pupils will do a **Phonics Screening Test**. The Phonics Screening Check is meant to show how well your child can use the phonics skills they've learned up to the end of Year 1, and to identify students who need extra phonics help in Year 2. The checks consist of **40 words and non-words** that your child will be asked to read one-to-one with a teacher. Non-words (or nonsense words, or pseudo words) are a collection of letters that will follow phonics rules your child has been taught, but don't mean anything – your child will need to read these with the correct sounds to show that they understand the phonics rules behind them.

Come and join us for a Phonics session for Year 1 parents on the 12th of October at 3pm.

In the **Spring** Term children will get a book with spellings to practise every week.

Reading

Reading remains important, both in the classroom and at home; so please listen to your child read every week and sign their reading record books. Children will get some information books as well as stories so that they develop knowledge and vocabulary, also understanding of the difference between fiction and non-fiction.

To make reading more interesting:

- ask the child to change the names of the characters while reading, with their names or your name, cousin's name, etc.
- ask the child to write his/her own ending of a story: "Emma, you already know this book. What happens in the beginning/ middle/end of this book? How can we change the ending to make it more interesting/challenging/ secretive/ happier /sad...etc?'
- make use of 'character voice': i.e. hoarse voice, baby voice, sad voice, angry voice, dog voice, daddy voice, excited voice and facial expressions. Take opportunities to talk about expression: exclamation marks and question marks, character feelings. Why is an exclamation/question mark here?