

# Year 1 Newsletter



Spring 2



## Dear Families,

We are really impressed with all the hard work the children have shown this half term with our new learning. The children have worked extremely hard to learn our new model text “ Monkey See, Monkey Do” and have produced some fantastic finding and loosing tales of their own, which shows their knowledge of the key skills we have learnt this half term. This half term, we also enjoyed our visit to the Ancient House Museum. The children thoroughly enjoyed visiting the important landmarks in Thetford to find out the history of the famous people of Thetford town. They were then excited to then return to the museum to meet these characters in person, where we were able to understand the impact that these people had on Thetford town.

This half term our theme will still continue to be “ place”. Throughout the half term, we will continue to explore Thetford and the UK in Geography, but will now explore this further as we consider the similarities and differences in the Human and Physical Geography of Thetford and a Non-European country such as Cape Town. The children will be provided with opportunities to develop their locational knowledge and map skills throughout the half term. As we approach the Phonics Screening Checks in the Summer term, we will be carrying out additional whole class phonics to support the children in consolidating their knowledge of their sounds. We will appreciate if you could continue to support your child at home by engaging with the weekly videos on Tapestry and additional resources that we will send home. Do reach out if you have any questions.

Please do keep checking the website to see all the learning that is taking place across the year!

## School Values

This half term our focus values are courage and love. In Year 1 , we will be discussing how we can develop the courage to try something new but also how we show “ love” towards others whether this being our friends and family. We will also be considering our class names, Marcus Rashford and Maria Merian, and how through their works they have had the courage to try something new and the ways in which they have shown love towards humanity. We will also be continuing with our RE focus and will consider how love and courage has been shown through parables.

## Curriculum

### Theme: Place!

This term we are beginning our theme, Place!

#### English

Our model text this half term will be “ Barnaby Bear’s Day out” In this we will explore writing recounts and will then go on to write our own recounts of an important event.

#### Maths

- Addition and Subtraction
- Length and Mass
- Fractions

#### Science

- Materials
- BioBlitz—Spring Term

#### Computing

- Grouping Data

#### Geography

- Thetford and the wider community.
- Naming and identifying countries in the UK

#### PE

- Dance

#### PSHE/RSHE:

- My responsibilities - Diseases.

#### RE:

- Spring Festivals.

#### Art

- Flora and Fauna— Observational drawing inspired by Maria Merian.



## School Councils and groups

EAL Council has a very exciting project to undertake. As part of the Art Festival at the end of the year, we are singing a wonderful song called Dreams Roll Away and some of the original lyrics were in Swahili, Welsh and French. As a council, we decided that it would be far more representative of our EAL community at Drake to change these lyrics to Polish and Lithuanian. We will be learning this in singing assembly.

## Behaviour

In school, we earn merits for demonstrating our learning powers, positive behaviours and outstanding effort and achievement.

We can also earn a class marble when we work well as a class to achieve something. Once we have got a full marble jar, the children will be able to decide as a class the reward that they would like to have and we will arrange a day for this to take place.

Secret students are picked randomly daily. The class staff will observe the secret student throughout the day. When the secret student has made good choices throughout the day. We share these on our school website and the child will be awarded with a certificate.

**Year 1 total merits this year: 9567**

**Year 1 total marbles this year: 162**

To see our secret students for Year 1 please visit the school webpage on:

<https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/year-1-secret-student/>

## Attendance

The attendance expectation attendance at Drake Primary School is 100%.

We look forward to working together to ensure high attendance across the year.

**Rashford Class attendance this year: 95.99%**

**Merian Class attendance this year: 93.78%**

## Pupil voice

“ In maths I have enjoyed counting on the number lines to do addition and subtraction” —Rashford Class Pupil.

“ In Geography I have enjoyed learning where we live.” - Merian Class Pupil

## Pastoral Notice

As you know, attendance at school is important. Children report that coming back into school having missed some lessons and trying to catch up with the other children is challenging.

UK Health Security Agency NHS

### Should I keep my child off school?

Yes	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

**No**  
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

Advice and guidance  
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://hpa.gov.uk/minifac>

The school website is a fantastic window into learning at our school. Year in 1 information can be found at:

<https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/2023-2024/>

If you have any questions about the classroom or any other school related issue, please do not hesitate to email the school office: we will either email you or arrange a time to call you.

Miss Moore and Miss Bush

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