

Year 1 Newsletter



Spring 1



Dear Families,

The Year 1 Team are extremely proud of the learning that has taken place across the Autumn term. The children have impressed us with their recall of our model text “ How to trap a Big Bad Wolf” and their imagination and understanding of instructions writing was certainly reflected through their final instruction pieces. The children also worked hard on performing their first class assemblies of the year and their Christmas Assembly during the end of the Autumn Term. Year 1 also thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the Ancient House Museum , where we were able to explore our past theme “Me! “ through exploring toys of the past. We are really looking forward to delving into our new theme this term and providing children with first hand experiences to explore their theme deeply.

This term our theme is “ place”; this will have a Geography focus. During the term, we will be exploring Thetford and our local community. During the term the children will have the opportunity to gain involvement in their community including a trip to the Ancient House Museum. We will also be discussing the geographical similarities and differences through studying the human and physical geography of an area of the United Kingdom. We will also take a place in the UK and compare it to Thetford. Through this, the children will be able to develop their understanding of their own community, but also develop their understanding of different places around the UK and the world.

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

Mrs Grainger has joined the Year 1 team for this term and we know that you will help her to feel very welcome.

School Values

This half term, our value focus is aspiration. In Year 1 we will be discussing what aspiration means. We will begin by looking at our aspirations for the rest of the academic year and then for the future and how we hope to reach this goals and targets. The children will then be able to reflect on these aspirations at the end of the academic year. The value of aspiration coincides with our theme of Place as the children will begin to think about where their learning can take them as they grow.

Curriculum

Theme: Place!

This term we are beginning our theme, Place!

English

Our model text this half term will be “ Monkey See, Monkey Do.” In this we will explore opening and endings to a story and write our own finding and losing tale.

Maths

- Addition and Subtraction to 20
- Fractions
- Time
- Place Value to 50
- Multiplication Bond Focus— 10 x table

Science

- Materials
- BioBlitz—Spring Term

Computing

- Grouping Data

Geography

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

PE

- Ball Skills
- Co-ordination and Control

PSHE:

- My responsibilities
- Turn-taking

P.E. and Forest School

This half term both Rashford and Merian Class will have PE on Fridays . This term we will be exploring Ball skills.

Please could you ensure that the children come dressed to school every Friday wearing the following PE clothing:

- White P.E t-shirt
- Black shorts / jogging trousers
- Plain sports trainers
- Grey or white ankle socks

Year 1 will be attending Forest Schools during this term. This will take place on a Tuesday starting from Tuesday 9th January 2024. Both classes will have a session each week. Sessions are led by Sara Star who the children know well from last year.

The children will need to come into school with appropriate clothing for Forest School on this day:

- Long trousers and long sleeves
- Old clothes as they may get muddy
- Waterproof coat (in addition to their school coat)
- Waterproof trousers

Home Learning

- Reading (**7 times a week**) (incl. reading diaries)
- Spellings will be released weekly on Tapestry and SUMDOG
- Spellings will be tested each Friday
- Phonics Videos will be sent home weekly on Tapestry
- Additional phonics resources may be sent home

Suggested websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z3g4d2p>
- **BBC Bitesize**

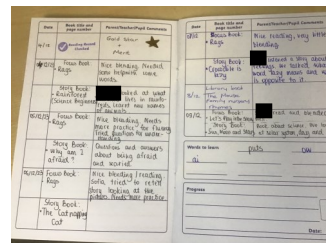
<https://learn.sumdog.com/> - **Sumdog**

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - **Phonics Play**

Reading Diaries

Reading is a fundamental part of our school. Children must read every day, this supports learning across the curriculum. The reading diary should be completed every time the children read, starting a new page each week.

The whole school focus for reading is **7 times a**



Important Dates

4th January—School term begins
18th January: Norwich Puppet Theatre
19th January—Road Safety Magic Show
26th January—Ancient House Trip
w/c 5th February—Assessment Week
8th February—Year 1 Parent Café
w/c 19th February—Half Term

A look at our learning so far...

Look at our school website to find out more about some of our learning:

School Radio Podcasts:



Year 1 Timetables:



Year 1 Photos:



School Councils

Throughout the Autumn term the school council has been focusing on supporting others in our community and fundraising. We have collected and delivered donations for the local food bank. We then worked hard to plan a fundraising event for Children in Need and raised £1866. In Spring we will be doing a project linked to school values and behaviour.

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: 6171

Year 1 total marbles this year: 108

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: 95.38%

Merian Class attendance this year: 97.12%

Pupil voice

“ I really enjoy everything at school. In History, I have really enjoyed going to the Ancient House Museum and learning about toys from the past—Rashford Class Pupil.

“ I have enjoyed playing with the Lego and drawing. I enjoy reading with my teachers.” - Merian Class Pupil

Safeguarding Notice

We have been made aware of the increase of vaping in children and would like families to be aware of the risks. These risks may also affect children who access vapes left around or found.

School is a non-smoking and non-vaping site. Please ensure that you do not use vapes whilst on school grounds.



Information links

[NHS—Young people and vaping](#)

[Kidshealth—e-cigarettes](#)

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 Bush and Mrs Grainger

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