



# Year 1 Newsletter

## Spring 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

### Creative Habit: Imaginative



#### English

This half term our model text is "Monkey See, Monkey Do". We will be learning how to write and innovate our own finding tales.

#### Maths Time

Exploring calculations  
within 20  
Numbers to 50

#### Science Everyday Materials

#### Geography Weather Changes

#### DT Constructing a Windmill

#### Computing Programming

#### RE What do Jewish people remember on Shabbat?

#### PE Ball Skills

Welcome back to the Spring Term!

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 "Whatever Next" and they certainly showcased their imagination and creativity in their innovated journey tales. It was so lovely to see and hear the broad range of ideas that the children had and their focus on their writing was shown throughout. The children ended off the Autumn Term with their first assembly of the year. We are all so proud of how hard the children have been working on learning their Christmas Songs, lines or acting roles for our performance.

Last half term, the children also enjoyed our educational visit to the Ancient House Museum. The children engaged in a variety of workshops that enabled them to develop an understanding of how toys have evolved over the years. We were super impressed with the facts that the children could recall about toys from the past. Additionally, the children have enjoyed our DT unit on Smoothie Making. The children were super eager to re-create their own smoothies by identifying their favourite fruit combinations and trialing out the results of combining two different fruits together. We were also super impressed with their kitchen safety skills demonstrated when cutting, blending and juicing ingredients for their smoothie.

#### PSHE

This half term our PSHE unit is called 'Dreams and Goals.' We will learn about aspirations and how to achieve goals. We will develop our understanding of the emotions that go with striving for goals.



Our school value for this half term is:  
Trust



# Our Learning So Far...

Our year group page - <https://www.drake.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+One&pid=286>

## This half term....

This half term, our over-arching theme is going to be "Nimbus." Our Geography Focus will be all around Weather and Seasonal Patterns of the UK.

We will be exploring different types of weather and will be identifying the seasonal daily weather patterns across different parts of the UK. We will also be learning to identify the 4 parts of the UK and their capital cities.

In PSHE, our new theme is "Dreams and Goals" This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to share their dreams, goals and aspirations for the short-term and the future. We will not only be thinking about what these goals are, but what we will need to do to reach our goals. Throughout this term, we aim to inspire our children to reach out for their goals however big or small they are!

Over the course of this half term, we will continue to remain focused on our Phonics. We will continue to work on the children's sound gaps, learn more Set 3 sounds and focus on word reading principle. In line with our school's key priorities, our focus will be ensuring that our children can write sentences using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces as well as developing their spelling skills including Common Exception Words.



## Year of the Tree

Last half term, Year 1 enjoyed carrying out observational drawings of our tree. We also learnt some facts about Silver Birch trees. We have also enjoyed carrying out observations on our tree and could identify that the leaves of our tree were changing color due to it being Autumn.

## Dates for Diary

5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> January - INSET Day (School Closed)

7<sup>th</sup> January - Spring Term begins

W/c 12<sup>th</sup> January - Year 1 Phonics Screening Practice Check

20<sup>th</sup> January - Y1/Y2 Multiskills Trip (20 students)

21<sup>st</sup> January - Norwich Science Festival Touring Play (In school)

28<sup>th</sup> January - Maths Parent Cafe at 2:30pm

W/c 5<sup>th</sup> February - RWi Assessments

13<sup>th</sup> February - Last day of half term

W/c 17<sup>th</sup> February - 21<sup>st</sup> February - Half Term Week



## Home Learning

**Reading:** Please listen to your child read, we are aiming for 7 reads every week. Remember to record any reading in your reading record. Please bring your reading record to school every day. **Spellings:** Spellings will be sent home in the children's reading diaries every Monday. Please find them attached under the "Words to learn section" of each weekly page. They will be tested the following Monday of each week. **Phonics:** Weekly Ruth Miskin Phonics Videos will be sent out via Tapestry. Please could you support your child in watching these videos. Additional resources will be sent out throughout the year in preparation for Phonics Screening in June 2026.

## PE and Forest Schools

**PE:** PE sessions for both Rashford and Merian Class will be on a Friday afternoon. Please could you ensure that your child comes into school wearing the correct PE kit.

This includes:

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

**Forest Schools:** Both Rashford and Merian Class will be attending Forest School this term on alternating Thursdays. Rashford Class will start their first session on Thursday 15th January 2026 and Merian Class will start their first session on Thursday 22nd January 2026. Please could you ensure that when your child is attending Forest School they come appropriately dressed for all weathers, especially now we are heading into the Winter. The clothing for Forest School includes: • Long trousers and long sleeves • Old clothes as they may get muddy • Waterproof coat (in addition to their school coat) • Waterproof trousers