

Year One Newsletter

Autumn 1 2023



A very warm welcome to all of the children and their families to Year 1 and a brand new school year full of exciting opportunities. We have enjoyed a fun packed start to the new school year and we are incredibly proud of how well the children are settling into their new classes and routines. The children thoroughly enjoyed our theme of 'Bears', listening to new stories and singing lots of songs. We have enjoyed learning and retelling the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' and learning all about the history of teddy bears. You should be incredibly proud of your children; they have returned to school full of positivity and eagerness to learn and we are all so excited for the year ahead. We can't wait to see what the rest of the school year has in store for us!

Reading

In Year 1 we continue following 'Little Wandle, Letters and Sounds Revised' for phonics and reading. Your child will have been sent home with a reading book which matches their phonics level which will match the end of year assessments from Reception. The children will be reassessed once we have completed the first 5 weeks of Year 1 phonics teaching. Children who are reading Phase 4 set 2 books will be benchmarked over the next couple of weeks and will bring home a colour banded book which they will be able to access.

Please ensure your child brings in their reading book every day.

Their reading books will be changed once per week. We encourage children to read their phonics book at least once a day to develop their fluency. By the end of the week the children should be able to read most words by sight and with more fluency. Please make a note in their red reading record of when and what they have read and any comments you may have.



Library



Children in each Year 1 class will be able to visit the library again this year. They will be able to choose 1 book to share with you at home.

Please ensure that your children remember their library book on the relevant day so they get to change their book regularly and experience a range of brilliant stories.

Jeffers Class	Wednesday
Murphy Class	Tuesday
McKee Class	Friday

Home Learning

In Year 1, Autumn 1, home learning consists of reading. Weekly home learning tasks will begin in Autumn 2, after October half term once the children have settled into the routines of Year 1.

Marvellous Me

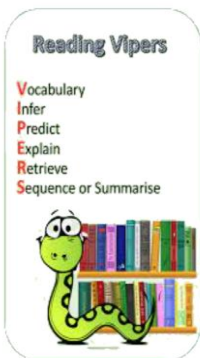
In Year 1 we use Marvellous me to send out reminders, messages and to celebrate the successes of our incredible children. You can access Marvellous Me via a browser or the Marvellous Me Parent app.

A letter will be with your parent



sent home access code.

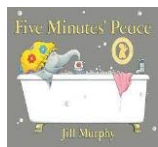
We encourage you to hear your child read daily, for between 5-10 minutes. It is also helpful to talk about the book including the setting, characters, plot and making predictions. To support your child's reading comprehension we use VIPERS. You can find a copy of these on the school website under the Year 1 teaching and learning tab.



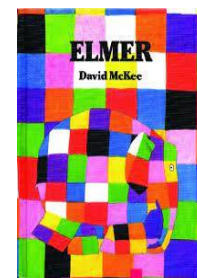
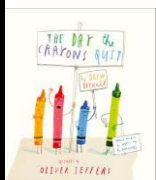
Please ensure you have activated your account so you can receive updates from the Year 1 team and receive messages about your child's learning and successes.

Year 1 Curriculum

Past and Present



We are beginning our journey in Year 1 with our thematic learning of the past and present. In English, the children are spending 2 weeks exploring the texts of each of our amazing Year 1 authors. We will be starting with Jill Murphy, followed by Oliver Jeffers and ending our term exploring David McKee. The children will learn lots of facts about the different authors and focus on different stories that they have written. We will be focussing on using our phonemic knowledge to help us write simple sentences to retell parts of different narratives.



In Science, the children will be learning all about themselves, focussing on naming parts of the human body and the 5 senses. This links well to our theme of 'Being Me' in our Jigsaw lessons where we will learn about how special it is to be ourselves.

In History, the children are investigating the differences between a classroom in the Victorian times to their classroom now. They will then explore toys from the modern day and throughout history which is where our 'Toy Making Workshop' will send them into a world of toys from the past.

To link with our theme of 'Past and Present', in Design Technology we will learn all about windmills, their purpose and how they are used now. The children will design, create then evaluate a windmill using wheels and axels.

In Maths, Year 1 children will continue to consolidate their understanding of place value within 10 and begin to delve deeper into addition and subtraction.

In Computing, we will be developing our skills on Purple Mash and creating a class pictogram.

This half term we are looking at the theme of friendship in RE and linking these to different religious stories. What an exciting half term ahead of us!



PE

Snacks, Water Bottles and Birthday treats

PE and Games in Year 1 will take place with Mr Smyth and Mr Neal and all Year 1 classes will have PE on Monday and Tuesday.

Please ensure that your child comes to school on the days that they have PE wearing their full Priory Rise PE kit, including **black** plimsolls or **all black** trainers. Children with earrings must be able to either take them out for PE lessons or come into school with them already covered for health and safety reasons.



Please ensure all uniform is clearly named so if it is lost we can return it to its rightful owner.

Fruit

At playtime fruit is provided for all children, but they are welcome to bring in their own healthy snack if they wish (please remember that we are a **nut-free** school as we have several children with significant and serious allergies).



Water bottles

We encourage children to drink plenty of water and to bring in a named water bottle for them to use during school hours, that your child can open independently. They can refill these at school.

Birthday Treats

If you would like to send in sweets or chocolate for your child to share with the class, please ensure they are individually wrapped and are **nut free**. This includes no treats that **may contain nuts**.

End of Day Dismissal

Thank you for your patience and understanding when we dismiss the children at the end of the day. Our priority is the safety of the children, and we take great care in ensuring that children leave with their designated adult.

We dismiss the children one at a time and although this makes the process a little slower at the beginning of the year, it ensures that all children are handed over safely. The process will speed up once we know you all better and the children are in a routine.

If another adult is picking up your child, please ensure that the office is informed, or the adult is written on their collection form. Thank you for your continued support in making the end of day dismissal a safe success.

Dates For the Diary

Monday 16th October – Toy Workshop (more information to follow).

Friday 20th October – Last day of this half term.

Tuesday 31st October – Children return to school.

Information regarding Parent's Evenings will be confirmed in due course and shared with you nearer the time.

Communication

If you have a message for your child's class teacher, please record this in your child's Home/School link book. Alternatively, you can email the Year 1 teaching team on the following email address: year1@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

All teachers are able to access this email address and will respond outside of teaching hours, but before 6pm each day. Thank you!

Our Priory Rise Value of the Month for September & October



Respect

During the month of September, we are focusing on our school value of 'respect'. We will be discussing what it means to respect others and ourselves and how we can demonstrate respect in our everyday lives.

In October, our value of the month will be:

Appreciation

Each month we spend time discussing our value, reading stories that demonstrate our value and celebrating children that show our values.

Recommended Reads

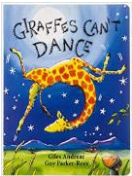
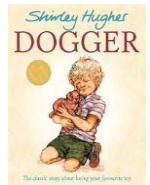


Miss Brown recommends 'Tilda Tries Again' by Tom Percival because:

"This book is about how to manage different feelings when Tilda's world feels like it has turned upside down. It emphasizes the importance of trying again, even when we don't feel like it, and learning from others around us. It has beautiful illustrations and a wonderful message.

Mrs Kalek recommends 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes because:

"Dogger is one of my favourite children's books. David a little boy, loses his favourite toy, Dogger. He is desolate. But then Dogger turns up at the school summer fair, and everything seems all right - until sadly, someone else buys him before David can get the money. A great read that helps children understand different emotions. Enjoy!"



Mrs Reynolds recommends 'Giraffes Can't Dance' by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees because:

"I feel it inspires us to embrace our individuality and encourages us to celebrate and love all of our differences. The illustrations are beautiful too; my daughters love spotting the animals."

Miss Holman recommends the collection of 'Little People Big Dreams' because:

"I absolutely love how it shows that everyone can achieve anything they put their mind to and in each book you learn so much about one influential person."

Little People, **BIG DREAMS**

Be Bold, Be Brave, DREAM BIG!

Working in Partnership

Thank you for your support so far in working to ensure we have had such a smooth start to this academic year. We look forward to working with you further to support your children in the best possible way.

