

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
Writing	During writing this half term, Year 1 will be setting general writing expectations, such as writing from left to right, using finger spaces when writing sentences and practicing correct letter formation (for example, ensuring the difference between the letter 'b' and 'd' is secure and writing goes on the lines). We will begin to introduce writing techniques and embed these concepts through a unit where our focus will be 'How to garden'. The children will learn about labelling, captions and simple instruction writing, with particular emphasis on correct sequencing (first, then, now) and the use of commands to give instructions. The purpose of the unit will be to inform a selected audience, in this case their class peers, of the things they need to do to effectively garden. How can I support my child's learning? You could support by asking your child to retell their instructions at home. They should practise using full sentences, actions and expression in their voice. Supporting to embed these writing techniques and proper letter formation will also be helpful for their in class progression and success.
Reading and Phonics	Sounds-Write (Phonics) Your child is practising their skills of: - segmenting (breaking words apart. e.g. plank is p-l-a-n-k); - blending (putting sounds together to make words. e.g. s-p-e-n-t is spent); and - phoneme manipulation- there are many ways to represent one sound e.g. ee/ea/e/ey/y Whole Class Reading During reading lessons, your child will be focussing on the books: Beegu and Where the Wild Things Are? They will learn and develop skills such as prediction and retrieval within these sessions. Books will be going home weekly on a Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure your child has their book in their bag daily so that we can read with them on a 1:1 level. How can I support my child's learning? You could support by listening to your child read their reading book every night at home. Encourage them to 'say the sounds and read the word'. Exposure to new words that they have to apply their phonic knowledge to, will also help to keep them on track ahead of their phonics challenge in June. You could also read harder texts with your child which they cannot read for themselves but can discuss with you throughout to support their comprehension skills and love for reading.
Mathematics	Your child will be learning about the composition of numbers 0-5 and 6-10 as quantities and measure this half term. They will focus on height, measure, volume/capacity and weight/mass. They will look at a variety of representations to show these, and develop their comparison skills, using mathematical symbols. The children will learn that a whole group of objects can be composed of two or more parts, and this can be represented using a part-part-whole models, identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line, and use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least. Pupils memorise and reason with number bonds to 10 in several forms (for example, $3 + 4 = 7$; $7 - 3 = 4$; $3 = 7 - 4$). They will begin to realise the effect of adding or subtracting zero. This establishes addition and subtraction as related operations. How can I support my child's learning? You could support by using the language of more, less and compare at home. When discussing numbers try to use the term 'numeral' to help their learning as well as supporting them to practise their number formation. You could also help your child with their number bonds to 10 so that they can confidently take their 10/10 badge.
Knowledge	Wider Curriculum <i>All pupils across the school will focus on the enquiry question 'How can data help us understand the world around us?'</i> Year 1's project will investigate what materials make the best curtains by comparing and choosing the most appropriate materials based on their properties. Within this project, children will build on their Science, Art, Maths, DT & Geography skills. Pupils will learn to describe different properties using scientific vocabulary, manipulate tools competently, safely and confidently, and finish by creating their own printed textile sample. R.E.

	In Year 1's RE lessons, we will begin to look at Christianity. We will look at the special Christian Celebrations, why they celebrate and how they say thanks to God during Harvest time. We will also focus on how Christians belong to the Church family and how they try to look after the world. Computing The children will develop an understanding of technology and how it can help them. They will become more familiar with the different components of a computer by developing their keyboard and mouse skills, and also start to consider how to use technology responsibly. How can I support my child's learning? You can support your child at home by questioning them about the areas we are studying this half-term and encouraging them to read widely around them too. Any additional knowledge that your child brings to the classroom will be duly celebrated!
Character	Character In Character this term, your child is learning about: self-control and dignity, Love and Kindness, Bravery, Perseverance, Leadership and Teamwork and Forgiveness. They will learn this through circle times, practical activities and a range of discussions. PSHE This term the children will be exploring the topic 'Being Me in my World'. This will cover how to grow current friendships and make new friends. They will also learn skills of mindfulness and how to find moments of calm. Music Your child will continue to take part in our music curriculum Charanga. This half term Year 1 will focus on pulse and rhythm elements of music. Spanish Our unit this term is Under the Sea. The children will be able to recognise, recall and remember up to 7 different sea creatures in Spanish with the correct article/determiner and accurate pronunciation. They will also recognise, recall and remember how to say hello and goodbye in Spanish, learn to listen attentively to a story in Spanish and follow simple instructions in Spanish. How can I support my child's learning? In terms of developing your child's character, really question them. For example, this half-term, challenge your child's judgements – make them reason as to why they make the judgements they do and help to illuminate different perspectives.
P.E. and Dance	In Autumn Term 1, our Year 1 children will learn about the fundamentals of football and other ball related sports. Within the lessons, they will learn how to find open spaces, avoid being tagged and move with speed and control. How can I support my child's learning? Please ensure your child comes into school wearing their full P.E. kit on their PE day which is Tuesday.