


Dear Families,

Thank you for taking the time to read this overview and for engaging with your child's learning this term. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the team. We really look forward to an exciting term of learning and fun!

Kind regards,  
The Year 1 Team

Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p><b>Fiction: Cinders</b> This half term, your child will study the Rags to Riches story, 'Cinders'. They will use drama and practical character exploration sessions to innovate the text and bring it to life. Each day, they will practise writing complex sentences using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. They will also consolidate their prior learning of similes, adjectives, conjunctions (e.g. but, so) and appropriate punctuation in order to create exciting extended sentences.</p> <p><b>Non-fiction: Explanation text</b> Excitingly, we will also be creating an explanation text this half term. We will be looking at a range of explanation texts and discussing the features of them. Then we will use this knowledge to create our very own text.</p> <p>To support your child, you could discuss the books that you read together and ask your child to give their opinion using the word 'because'. Exploring a wide range of texts including poetry will also really help your child to thrive.</p>
Writing	<p><b>Nelson Handwriting</b> As we continue our journey to outstanding handwriting, we will be focussing heavily on ascenders (letters that are tall) and descenders (letters that go below the line). As ever your child is practising with a 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. As we move towards the end of the year we will be inviting children who are ready to join all of their letters.</p>  <p>You can support your child's handwriting by ensuring they are using a sharp pencil and sitting at a table when completing homework or independent writing.</p>
Reading	<p><b>Sounds-Write (Phonics)</b> Your child will continue to practise their skills of segmenting, blending and phoneme manipulation. All children are working hard to read words of one, two and three syllables.</p> <p><b>Guided Reading</b> This half term your child will continue to read with a teacher as part of a small group. We will focus on decoding words and strengthening their comprehension as we begin to look at inference questions, e.g. What is this character feeling and thinking? How do you know?</p> <p>It is vital that you are reading with your child every day to support their skills of sounding and blending. You could support their understanding of what they are reading by asking questions about what you have read and asking to make inferences.</p>
Mathematics	<p>This term, we will be learning how to record mass, weight, capacity and volume. We will be comparing and describing using language such as <i>heavier than</i>, <i>lighter than</i>, <i>more than</i> and <i>less than</i>.</p>

	<p>We will also be counting and unitising money, building on our prior knowledge of 2, 5 and 10 times tables, to count amounts of money beginning with any multiple – both forwards and backwards. The children will learn the value of each coin and use their knowledge of this to solve practical problems.</p>
	<p>You could support your child by measuring, recording and comparing lengths and heights, mass/ weight, capacity and volume and time (hours, minutes, seconds). You could support with counting and unitising money by exposing your child to simple problem solving activities through role play.</p>
Core Knowledge	<p>In <b>Science</b> this half term the children will be learning about plants. They will carry out an investigation which centers on observing over time. The children will explore what a plant needs to grow by depriving their seeds of water or light. The children will also learn the difference between evergreen and deciduous trees as they classify and discuss them.</p>
	<p>In <b>Geography</b> your child will be learning about the Continents and Oceans. They will begin by singing songs about oceans and continents. Next, they will revise the equator line and begin to explore how this impacts the climate, for example, Antarctica is the coldest continent because it is the furthest away from the equator. They will also explore specific countries and cultures within those continents.</p>
	<p>In <b>RE</b> your child will be learning about Christianity. Within this unit your child will learn about Churches, important Christian ceremonies, Church leaders and the teachings of Jesus.</p>
	<p>You could support by talking about the different countries within that continent. For example, we live in the United Kingdom, which is a part of Europe.</p>
Character & Jigsaw	<p><b>Character:</b> This half term your child will be focusing on the virtues Optimism and Joy, Creativity and Humility. Your child will be enjoying a range of situations that allow them to experience these virtues before reflecting on them through literature and circle times. We will take part in class discussions about how we can show humility in different situations. We will focus on putting these into practise around school and thinking about when and where we can show all these values.</p> <p><b>Jigsaw:</b> This half term, our Jigsaw learning will be focusing on 'Relationships' including our families, making friends, relationships with ourselves and people in our community.</p>
	<p>You can support your child's learning by recognising the services that help your family e.g. doctors, dentists, dust bin collectors.</p>
Art	<p>This half term in Art we will be focusing on William Hogarth's paintings, in particular The Graham Children. We will be developing a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape and form to creatively design and make artwork in the style of Hogarth.</p>
	<p>You could support your child by encouraging them to discuss their artwork, giving their opinions on what they like and what they might change to make it even better.</p>
Music	<p>Your child sings in groups with their class every day for enjoyment and to reinforce their learning. We will also be continuing to follow our music scheme Charanga. Our new song is 'Your Imagination' which is a fun filled song that makes us all smile.</p>
	<p>You could support by singing songs together or by making homemade instruments.</p>
P.E	<p>Years 1 will be focusing on Athletics during PE in preparation for their Sports Day! These events are Long Jump, High Jump, Javelin, Discus, Running Races and an Obstacle Course. Alongside this, the children will take part in a variety of fun, inclusive games.</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child eats a healthy, balanced diet and arrives at school having eaten a nutritious breakfast.</p>