

Autumn Term Newsletter

Year 1 / 2 - September 2025

Welcome to Key Stage 1! We have really enjoyed getting to know the classes during our transition week and are excited for year ahead. The details below will give you a little bit of information about what your child will be learning in school during the autumn term.

Please contact the school office if you have any questions and we will get back to you as soon as we can. We hope you have a wonderful summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all in September.

Thank you for your support,

Mrs Zawadzki-Brown, Mrs Deegan, Mrs Kemp, Mrs Arundel and Mrs Hunter

PE:

This term, our lessons will be focussing on invasion games, including rugby, football and handball.

Please can you send your child into school in PE kit on their relevant PE days:

Willow: Tuesday and Friday

Fir: Tuesday and Friday

Yew: Wednesday and Friday

Please ensure earrings are removed and long hair is tied back.



Maths:

In Maths, we will focus on place value, addition and subtraction and 2D and 3D shapes.

We will work practically, develop rapid recall of number facts and solve problems within lessons.

ART: This term we will explore various drawing, collage and mark-making techniques. Later in the term we will study the artists Rosie James and Alice Fox.



English:

We will be studying a range of fiction and non-fiction books with the children this term. We will retell, discuss and write using these texts as a stimulus. We will have a go at writing stories, non-fiction reports and simple poems.

We will continue to use the phonics and spelling scheme "Super Sonic Phonics".

In our reading sessions, activities will include: group and/or 1:1 reading, asking and answering questions about what we have read, and exploring vocabulary. Activities are linked to 'Reading VIPERS'



History:

History is our topic focus for the Autumn Term. We will be learning about significant events from the past, for example the Great Plague, Gunpowder Plot and the Great Fire of London. We will also look at the Industrial Revolution, Jedidiah Strutt and the links to our local community. **2026 is a BIG year for Belper and the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. It is the 250th anniversary of the first cotton mill opening in Belper. It will be 300 years since the birth of Jedidiah Strutt, the man who transformed Belper into the world's first cotton mill town. Several events are in the planning phase locally, and our school will join in! More details will follow... In the meantime, take a look at this link: [2026 is Belper 250, a year of Celebration. Join in and help us to plan - Derwent Valley Mills](#)**



Science:

In Science, we will be learning about Everyday Materials. We will name everyday materials and describe some of their properties. We will also compare and group everyday materials. We will also carry out ongoing observations based on how plants change over time. We look forward to planting some bulbs this term.

Music: This term our main song will be 'Hands, Feet, Heart', written to celebrate and learn about South African music. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, we will listen to and appraise different styles of South African music. Later in the Term, we will also be learning songs to accompany our Christmas performance.



Computing:

We will start by learning about computing systems and Networks – IT all around us. Later in the term, we will have lots of fun learning about digital printing.



PSHE:

'Being Responsible' is our focus this term. We will discuss rules in different situations, recognising people have different needs and managing waste. We will then move on to 'Being Me' and learn about ourselves and our likes and dislikes, how friends have similarities and differences, and how we belong to different groups.

To view more about our PSHE curriculum, please click the link below.

[PSHE | Long Row Primary School](#)

RE:

This term we will ask the question, 'Who is a Muslim and what do they believe?'

We will also be learning about the Christian celebration of Christmas and will be preparing our Nativity performance.

Behaviour:

We will continue to use the same behaviour policy as before.

We will send 'Over and Above' cards and texts home to let you know if your child has gone over and above. Similarly, we may phone to let you know if something great has happened.

We will also continue to use the **reminder, warning, last chance behaviour steps** for any behaviour that disrupts learning.

We will communicate with you about any time outs your child receives.

We will continue to have 'R' time on a Friday to reward the children's efforts.

Please remember:

Send your child in with a water bottle with a *sports cap*.

To label **all** you child's belongings, including water bottles and hats!

We will collect in reading diaries and reading books on a Thursday so we can prepare a new set of books to be sent out on Friday.

Earrings must be removed for PE lessons and long hair must be tied up.

We hope you found this newsletter helpful and that the children have a great term!

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Sequence or Summarise



The Year 1/ 2 Team