Year One Newsletter

Our Driving Question for Year 1 is: Why should people visit Banbury?

Term 1 September to October 2026

Welcome to Year 1! The children enjoyed a couple of days transitioning into their new classes and are excited to now be in their new classrooms. They are looking forward to exploring their new environment and starting to complete different independent challenges throughout the day- please chat to your child about what they have done each day in school.

The children will take part in PE each week. Indoor and outdoor PE is set to be on a Wednesday for all children in Year 1. It would be great if PE kits could be brought into school for the first week of term.

PE kits stay in school all week. They need a **white t-shirt, black shorts, tracksuit trousers, trainers, black/dark coloured jumper or hoodie**. We do go outside in the colder months so tracksuit trousers and a jumper are needed. **Please make sure these are all labelled and in a labelled bag.** Please remember pupils must **not wear** any jewellery for PE including stud earrings.

Literacy

Over the term we will be looking at a range of stories linked to going to new places such as Beegu and Lost and Found. During this term, our focus will be on letter formation and thinking about what makes a sentence. We will also introduce grammar aspects such as finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. The children will be taking part in daily dictation similar to phonics to help them practice and revisit these skills as well as following the gradual release of responsibility with writing using the 'I do, we do and you do' approach to help them build their confidence with sentence writing.

At home: Remember to complete homework every week and return the homework book and reading folder on a **Thursday**. It will be returned to you on a Friday. Please keep this in your child's bookbag along with their reading record. They will be given new books to read along with their homework. Try to read with your child each night for 15 minutes; they could read to you and in turn you could share a book with them. Listening to stories is just as important as reading them themselves.

Maths

In maths this term we will have a focus on numbers to 10. We will check we can read and write our numbers, but also spot them in tens frames, dice patterns and on rekenreks without having to count all the objects (Subitising). We will be comparing these numbers and ordering them. Children will also learn to count forwards and back from any number to 10. We will then move onto adding and subtracting within 10.

At home: You will receive maths homework every 2 weeks. At home, can you go on a number spotting journey? What numbers can you spot? Where did you spot the numbers? Look for numbers beyond 10. Can you see any patterns? Try these fun games: https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering or https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/coconut-ordering or https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

PE

The pupils will be learning about running this term as well as completing some gymnastics activities. They will learn to travel and balance effectively in a sequence. This will be every Wednesday and will be indoor and outdoor so need clothes appropriate for both.

Forest School

We will do Forest School in Term 1. It will be every Thursday. Please bring old, waterproof clothes in a named bag, which will go home with your child.

Creative Curriculum

Our focus subjects will be: geography, PSHE and science. In geography, we will learn about our **school, town and country**. They will learn about features of the local environment and how to read simple **maps**. In PSHE, we will look at **belonging** and setting goals in a topic of their choice at the start of term. In science, we will be learning about naming trees and the seasons and weather.

The vocabulary we will be using in our topic will be: **school, journey, route, travel, maps, atlas, globe, street, postcode, avenue, country, town and environment.**

Try using these words with your child at home to make sure they understand their meaning.

Reminders:

Website: Remember to check the class pages regularly for newsletters, texts, updates and photos from work in class. The letters page will now contain all other letters for our class.
Homework: This will be **sent home** every **Friday** and is **due** in on the **Thursday** of the week after.
Tapestry: We will continue to use tapestry to record your children's learning as well as sending any key messages.

https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2026/07/Term-1-dates-2026.docx.pdf