



Year One Curriculum Report:

Autumn Term A

Welcome to Year 1! It has been really good getting to know your children this term and we have enjoyed hearing all about your summer holiday and lockdown adventures. We have also been very impressed by how well the children have managed the transition to a new part of our school and the independence with which they are coming into school.

We have spent time helping the children to become familiar with their new classrooms and spent lots of time outside in the courtyard. Over the first four weeks of term, we will be assessing their reading, phonics, writing and maths so that gaps in understanding can be addressed as quickly as possible. We are really pleased with how the children have taken Year 1 in their stride - learning new routines, becoming familiar with their classrooms and showing they are ready for the challenges that lay ahead in Year 1.

If you have any queries or questions about your child at any point, please speak to your child's class teacher or, as it can be tricky for face to face conversations at the moment you are able to contact teachers directly via emailing using year1@purbrook-inf.hants.sch.uk.

This half term the topic of '**Into the Woods**' is the starting point for most of our learning opportunities and experiences. We will be making the most of our school grounds, and have already visited them to identify and photograph different features.

Shared Learning Time: As part of your child's development and transition into Key Stage One, and particularly this year as they have missed part of their Year R learning, they will continue to have the opportunity to choose their own learning for some of each day. The children will be using a variety of resources indoors and outside, which give opportunity to consolidate learning across the curriculum. This is similar to Year R Discovery Time and encourages independence, confidence, language skills and social skills. In addition, there are planned learning jobs that the children are expected to complete independently. For example, this week they have made leaf rubbings and labelled a picture. During this time, class teachers will also be working with small groups developing English and Maths skills.

Personal, social and health education (PSHE): PSHE has a high priority in the first few weeks of any new school year, but particularly this year as we all adjust to new routines and being part of a whole class again. We are co-operating, sharing and taking turns in our learning and will enjoy playing board games such as snakes and ladders to help us learn these skills. We are thinking about how to make our classes a safe and fair place to learn by following the Golden Rules. Later in the half term, we will create and sign up to our own Class Charter.

English: We have begun with a focus on writing sentences – identifying capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in our sentences. Using the traditional tale Goldilocks and the Three bears we are going to develop our storytelling language and practise speaking in full sentences. We will develop our experience of writing sentences using the Goldilocks story and about woodland animals.

The children will also be having daily phonics lessons in groups to help them read a wider range of words. There will be a big focus on recognising, reading and spelling using digraphs (e.g. ch, ee, oa). In addition, children will be reading in small groups and through games and activities in shared learning time. We really value the support you can give by hearing your child read at home. It makes a huge difference to their progress.

Helping at home: *Parents can continue to help at home by hearing your child read at home five times every week. To become a successful reader, children need to hear stories read to them as well as reading their reading books.*

Mathematics: Our learning focuses on developing our understanding of the number system and beginning to build an understanding of place value. We have already been practising our counting in many different contexts both forwards and backwards, consolidating our counting and number formation up to at least 20. We are also going to consolidate the language of addition and subtraction (plus, add, and, minus, subtract, etc.), recording our calculations using symbols (+ and -) and understanding equals as 'the same as'.

Helping at home: All children need to become fully familiar with the number system. By counting forwards and backwards and playing games such as 'Which number have I missed out?' or, asking which number comes after/before a given number you can really help your child to develop their knowledge and confidence when working with numbers. Practice forming numbers and especially writing the tricky teens will also help your child.

Science: This area of learning has a focus on 'Ourselves' - naming key body parts, exploring our senses and comparing humans with animals. We will investigate how other animals use their senses to stay alive. For example, which colours are best to camouflage the Gruffalo?

Geography: The children will be observing and describing the weather and the changing seasons. We will explore maps, atlases and globes to discover hot and cold parts of the world. Later in the term we will create maps for Goldilocks and Oliver Owl to find their way through the woods.

Computing: In Computing the children will be learning about how technology is made by people to help us. We will then explore computer technology using a mouse and keyboard to paint and type.

Religious Education: In RE we will be thinking about the changes that happen in autumn and linking this to the celebration of harvest in church.

Physical Education: In PE the children will be busy bouncing, jumping and landing in gymnastics. They will also be working on their co-ordination skills and learning to follow instructions carefully and safely.

Music: In music the children will be developing their listening skills to identify high, middle and low-pitched sounds. We will link this to the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears and create our own compositions using different pitched instruments to represent the bears.

Art: The children will be exploring a range of resources to create leaves using a range of media – printing, painting, drawing and rubbing.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to support the children's learning in any way. We are always particularly grateful for willing volunteers to support reading.

Home Learning Challenge:

Go on a family autumn walk – either in the woods, at the park or just explore in your garden. Use your senses find out about autumn...

What can you see?

What can you hear?

What can you smell?

What can you feel?

You could collect different things to make an autumn collage, write a list of autumn things you have spotted or take photos and label all your finds. We would love to see what you create at school, either bring it in or email photos to year1@purbrook.inf-hants.sch.uk.



Due to our Covid-19 risk assessment, collages will be quarantined on arrival into school before going on display. We love seeing the children's learning and don't want to stop this, we are just having to find different ways of doing this.