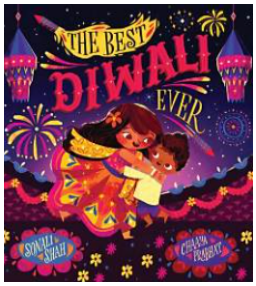
Year 1 Squirrel Class Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn 2 2026

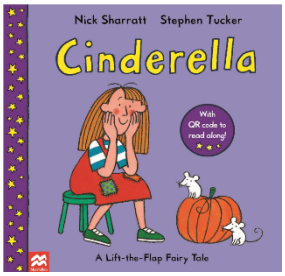


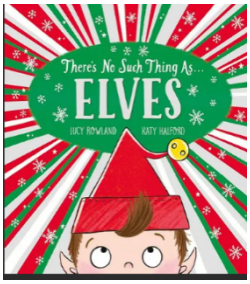
A very warm welcome back to Year 1! We hope you have had a lovely half term break. The Year 1 team were very proud of all the children's hard work last half term, and we can't wait to see how they progress this half term too.

Our Learning Question this half term is **'What is it like where we live?'**









In English we are continuing to learn how to compose sentences orally and we will be focusing on writing sentences independently using our phonics knowledge.

We will be focusing on capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. We will be looking at lots of different texts over the term.

All children will continue to be involved in a daily phonic lesson, where we will learn new ways of reading and writing sounds, and how to read and spell new tricky words.

We will also be continuing to learn correct letter formation through our daily handwriting lessons.

Reading, we will be continuing our group reading sessions with your child. Your child will bring home two books a week. A book they have learnt to read well in school and they will also bring home an individual book to read. This book will not be read in school so please share it with your child at home and sign your child's reading record to let us know you have done this.
Your child needs to bring their reading book to school every day.

You can also support your child by reading other stories and books to them. Listening to stories helps your child's reading and language development, as well as their understanding of the world. A bedtime story is a great way to fit this in, and a lovely end to the day.

In mathematics, we will be continuing to build on our learning from Reception by mastering the place value of numbers to 10. We will also solve problems using numbers to 10. We will be introducing the part-whole model, looking at fact families and building our number bond knowledge within 10.

The children are already budding mathematicians, and we can't wait to see how they continue to build on their maths skills.



In Geography,
We will be learning about our local area of Coppice and developing our understanding of the community around us. The children will then build on their map-reading skills by following maps and identifying different places of worship and key buildings within the local area.

To bring our learning to life, we will plan a visit to our local church and library. These visits will provide opportunities for the children to explore important places in the community, understand their purposes and develop a wider knowledge of the local area.

In Science, this half term the children will be exploring The Human Body.

The children will learn all about the human body. They will label key parts of the human body and explore the five senses: sight, sound, taste, touch and smell.





In Computing - through Purple Mash the children will be using the paint tool to create a picture and a jigsaw that they can complete together.

In Art, the children will be focusing their learning around sculpting. They will create Diva lamps to celebrate Diwali using clay.

In PSHE/Well-being, the children will be focusing on two key questions '**What is a healthy lifestyle?**' and '**How do I stay safe?**'

In Music, the children will build on their singing and listening skills whilst exploring key vocabulary such as pulse/beat, rhythm and pitch.

In PE our focus will be around games. We will build on our understanding of working together as a team, and build on key skills needed to participate in different sports games.

PE Kit is black or blue leggings/joggers, white tee shirt, school jumper and trainers. Children need to come to school in their kit on their PE day.
PE days are **Thursday** and **Friday**.

Forest School
Our Forest School day with Mrs Nuttall is on **Tuesday.** Please make sure your child has a pair of wellies in school for Forest School.

In Year 1 all children will continue to have learning experiences that involve play and exploration. This means they will be involved in messy activities and spend lots of time learning outside.

We will be playing outside whatever the weather, so as we move further into Autumn, **please make sure that your child comes to school in a warm and waterproof coat.**

Key dates to look out for:
6th November – Diwali Party
24th November – Individual school photos
4th December – Fundraising event (more info to follow)
10th December – Christmas Crafternoon
15th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas dinner
16th December – Christmas Party Day

General Reminders:

- **Please ensure your child's coat and jumper/cardigan are labelled with their name.** If these items of clothing get lost, it makes it much easier to get them back to the right owner.
- **On PE days, please remove earrings**.
- Children should bring water in a plastic reusable bottle, labelled with their name. This will go home to be washed each evening
- Please remember to bring your child's homework book back every **Monday**, so we can look at all the hard work the children have done at home and ensure your child has new homework in their book every week.
- Please check evidence me for pictures of your child's learning and their phonics homework. Please complete at least one task each week.

We are really looking forward to working with you, your child and your family again this half term. If you have any worries or questions, then please talk to us at drop off and pick up times.
The Year 1 Team