



# Year 1 Newsletter

## Spring Term 2025



Dear Parents/ Carers,

The children have come back from the Christmas holidays refreshed and ready to learn this term. The Autumn term was a big step for Year 1 but we are so proud of all they have achieved in such a short period of time. They have all shown resilience, confidence and a love of learning during both child-initiated learning and adult-led learning. We look forward to this continuing throughout the rest of Year 1.

They all did such a fantastic job performing in our class production last term. I am sure you can all agree that all their hard work definitely paid off. This term we will be starting more formal learning with the children expected to sit for longer periods working at their tables. So far, they have far exceeded my expectations with this. Many of them are already showing themselves to be ready for Year 2!

Subject	
English	<p><b>Curious Quests</b> - Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Write single clause sentences.</li><li>- Punctuate sentences using capital letters and full stop.</li><li>- Letter formation</li><li>- Begin to convey information and ideas in simple non-narrative forms.</li><li>- Join two clauses in a sentence using the coordinating conjunction 'and'.</li></ul> <p><b>Phonics:</b></p> <p>Continue to support your children with their phonics from phase 3 to 5. Alongside this focus on reading and writing tricky words for each phase and year 1 common exception words.</p> <p><a href="https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/">https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2n7ywx">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2n7ywx</a></p>
Maths	<p>Focus: <b>Numbers to Twenty, Geometry and Measure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number formation</li><li>- Conservation of number</li><li>- Subitising</li><li>- Regrouping</li><li>- Part-whole addition and subtraction</li><li>- Comparison</li><li>- Equality and balance</li><li>- Names and properties of 2D and 3D shapes.</li><li>- Measure - Comparing length, height, mass and speed.</li></ul> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z8x8h4j">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z8x8h4j</a></p> <p>Numbots App (refer to homework for details)</p>
Science	<p><b>Animals Including Humans</b> - All About Animals - This is the second part of two units. Children will learn to identify and name a variety of common animals. Identify which are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, and learn how to compare and group a variety of</p>

	<p>different types of animals.</p> <p><b>Everyday Materials 2</b> - This is the second part of two units. Children will learn to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. They will learn how to identify and name a variety of everyday materials, describe their properties and also compare and group them together.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zx3trmn">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zx3trmn</a></p>
History	<p><b>The Greatest Explorer</b> - In this unit, the children will investigate the lives and journeys of five explorers from various eras: Ibn Battuta, Captain Cook, Roald Amundsen, Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Sunita Williams. They will study an explorer from different perspectives, discussing what makes an explorer 'great', and who might not think that.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbqcmbk">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbqcmbk</a></p>
Geography	<p><b>People and their communities</b> - In this unit, the children take four different world journeys. Starting with their local area, they then look at coastal, rainforest, dry (desert) and world city locations.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqs2vj6">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqs2vj6</a></p>
Computing	<p><b>Pictograms</b> - In this unit, children will be looking at how they can use pictograms to represent data.</p> <p><b>Lego Builders</b> - This unit encourages children to think logically. Here they will be introduced to the term 'algorithm'.</p> <p><b>Coding</b> - In this unit children will understand the meaning of coding. Children will learn how to create their own one-step and two-step codes.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zyhbwmn">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zyhbwmn</a></p>
Art	<p><b>Sculpture and 3D paper play</b> - This unit introduces pupils to paper-based 3D art forms, focusing on techniques like rolling paper tubes, shaping paper strips, and constructing imaginative sculptures. Children develop skills in creating 3D structures and applying painting skills in three-dimensional art, enhancing their understanding of form and construction.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmyvcxs">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmyvcxs</a></p>
DT	<p><b>Cooking and Nutrition - Smoothies</b> - In this unit, children will be preparing foods by cutting and juicing and selecting fruits and vegetables to create a smoothie to meet a design brief.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z9mwtcw">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z9mwtcw</a></p>
PE	<p>As in all PE units, pupils develop physical, social, emotional and thinking whole child objectives.</p> <p><b>Target Games</b> - In this unit, the children will learn about different throwing skills as well as perseverance and how to work well as a team.</p> <p><b>Gymnastics</b> - (Spring 1 and 2) In this unit, children will explore and develop basic gymnastic actions on the floor and using low apparatus. They will learn basic skills of jumping, rolling, balancing and travelling individually and in combination to create movement sequences.</p> <p><b>Invasion Games</b> - Invasion games are games where there are two teams and two goals. Teams try to score in the opposition's goal. In this unit, children will develop an understanding of attacking and defending and what being 'in possession' means. They will develop skills of sending and receiving with both hands and feet.</p>
Music	<p><b>Musical Conversations</b> - Music is full of conversations between instruments (and/or voices). Ideas are often passed back and forth, copied, and developed. This unit describes how to create musical conversations with your children. Pupils will invent and compose short pieces based around question-and-answer interactions/dialogue. They will also learn to take turns playing, lead and follow, read a 'score', and create their own simple graphic scores.</p>

	<p><b>Who stole my chickens and my hens?</b> - This unit is built around a fun song with easy to pick up lyrics and a lively melody. The song provides plenty of opportunities to practise beat work, rests, and explore the 'skipty' (dotted quaver-semiquaver) rhythm. As well as learning the song activities include learning a simple clapping game that can be played in pairs, creating body percussion patterns, and composing new lyrics.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z7tnvcw">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z7tnvcw</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/SingingHandsUK">https://www.youtube.com/user/SingingHandsUK</a></p>
RE	<p><b>Judaism - Unit 9 - Who is Jewish and how do they live?</b> - Within this unit, children will learn about Jewish worldviews and ways of life. They will learn about texts from the Torah and their importance for Jewish people today. They will find out about the mezuzah and the Shema prayer and what they mean for believers. Later in the unit, pupils will find out about Shabbat and Chanukah, discussing why Jewish people mark these times, what they learn from stories found in the Torah and why they are important today.</p> <p><b>Christianity - Unit 10 - What do Christians believe God is like?</b> - Within this unit, children find out what parables are, and that Christians believe these stories were told by Jesus to teach his followers about God. They learn about the parable of the Lost Son and what this story teaches many Christians about God, including God being loving and forgiving. Pupils think carefully about what it means for Christians to ask for forgiveness from God and the promise that people will be welcomed back into God's family. They also learn the story of Jonah and the Big Fish and find out about how many Christians put their beliefs into practice through worship.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2yxb7h">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2yxb7h</a></p>
RSHE	<p>This term the children will be thinking about their '<b>Dreams and Goals</b>'. Aswell as this, they will be focussing on '<b>Healthy Me</b>'.</p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zst3g7h">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zst3g7h</a></p>
French	<p><b>Transport</b> - The children will learn the names of transport in French.</p>

We will continue to change your child's book on Tuesday's and Friday's. However, please make sure your child brings their reading folder to school every day. Some books may be repeated to support your child's fluency in their reading. **Please make sure you read with your child at least three or four times a week and write in their reading records so we can see they have read. Reading at home is very beneficial for your child's progress.**

### Home Learning

This will be sent out every Monday on Google Classroom.

### PE

Our PE days are on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Thank you for your continued support this term. As always, if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me via the year 1 email address

[year1@homerswood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:year1@homerswood.herts.sch.uk)

Kind regards,

Mrs Penny, Mrs Gregory, Mrs Bohoran and Mrs Mills