



Year 1 Newsletter

Summer Term 2026



Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful Easter break! Spring term was fantastic and we are so proud of the progress and leaps the children have made within themselves and their learning. We're looking forward to our final term together as a Year 1 team.

Subject	
English	<p>Curious Quests - Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Write single clause sentences.- Punctuate sentences using capital letters and full stop.- Letter formation- Begin to convey information and ideas in simple non-narrative forms.- Join two clauses in a sentence using the coordinating conjunctions such as 'and', 'because' etc.- Writing for different purposes such as stories, instructions etc.- Continuing to expose the children to a variety of punctuation such a speech marks. <p>Phonics:</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. We will also be continuing to prepare for the Phonics Screening by reading real words and alien words daily. Practice papers can be found here: Phonics screening check: 2025 materials - GOV.UK https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2n7ywx</p>
Maths	<p>Focus: Number, time and fractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Multiplication- Division- Time - O'clock and half past- Fractions- Numbers to 20 review- Numbers to 100- Place Value <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z8x8h4j Numbots App (refer to homework for details)</p>
Science	<p>Plants - In this topic, children explore their local environment to find out about the plants that live in their locality.</p> <p>Seasonal Changes - In this topic the children will be discussing the changes that occur in our environment across the seasons.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zx3trmn</p>
History	<p>How have Explorers changed the world? - In this unit, children will learn about explorers, their journeys, and why they are significant. They will sequence events using photographs and timelines, explore how exploration has changed over time, and use images</p>

	<p>and stories to ask questions and share what they have learned creatively. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbqcmk</p>
Geography	<p>What is it like to live in Shanghai? - In this unit, children will learn to identify and describe human and physical features in their local area and around the world. They will use maps, photographs, atlases, and simple directional language to locate places such as the UK, China, Europe, and Asia. Children will also compare Shanghai with their own locality, identifying similarities and differences between human and physical features. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zqs2vj6</p>
Computing	<p>Data and Information - Grouping data - This unit introduces learners to data and information. Labelling, grouping, and searching are important aspects of data and information. Searching is a common operation in many applications, and requires an understanding that to search data, it must have labels. This unit of work focuses on assigning data (images) with different labels in order to demonstrate how computers are able to group and present data.</p> <p>Creating media - digital writing - Learners will develop their understanding of the various aspects of using a computer to create and manipulate text. They will become more familiar with using a keyboard and mouse to enter and remove text. Learners will also consider how to change the look of their text, and will be able to justify their reasoning in making these changes. Finally, learners will consider the differences between using a computer to create text, and writing text on paper. They will be able to explain which method they prefer and explain their reasoning for choosing this. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zyhbwmn</p>
Art	<p>Painting and mixed media: Colour Splash - In Art the children will be learning about colour mixing with a focus on the primary colours. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmyvcxs</p>
DT	<p>Textiles: Puppets - In DT the children will be learning different ways to join two pieces of fabric to make their own hand puppets. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z9mwtcw</p>
PE	<p>As in all PE units, pupils develop physical, social, emotional and thinking whole child objectives.</p> <p>Dance - Pupils will explore travelling actions, movement skills and balancing. They will understand why it is important to count to music and use this in their dances. Pupils will copy and repeat actions linking them together to make short dance phrases.</p> <p>Athletics - In this unit, pupils will develop skills required in athletic activities such as running at different speeds, changing direction, jumping and throwing.</p> <p>Net and wall games - In this unit, pupils develop their understanding of attacking and defending principles in net games such as using a ready position to defend their court and placement of a ball into space.</p>
Music	<p>Dancing and Drawing to: Nautilus - Through this music, pupils will develop their feeling and understanding of pitch, beat, and duration. They will listen actively to the piece, interpreting its gestures in dance. They will engage imaginatively with the piece by drawing to the music. Finally, they will compare their interpretations with contrasting animations and videos, discovering that music can be interpreted in a myriad of ways.</p> <p>Cat and Mouse - This unit uses a singing game as a starting point for improvising rhythms and then reading and writing them in simple notation. It also explores how we use a combination of musical elements - rhythm, tempo, timbre, and dynamics - to create an emotional response that helps us tell a story.</p> <p>Come Dance with Me - This lively warm-up song works well with movement and provides a good springboard into composing new lyrics and actions. The call-and-response nature of the song translates well into instrumental work, with pupils creating their own percussive responses and playing simple rhythm patterns on tuned instruments.</p>

	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z7tnvcw https://www.youtube.com/user/SingingHandsUK
RE	<p>Christianity, Islam & Judaism - Unit 11 - What does it mean to belong to a faith community? - In this unit, the pupils will focus on what it means to belong to a faith community. They will revisit knowledge from prior units about Muslims, Christians, and Jewish people, considering how members of these communities show that they belong. Throughout the unit, pupils will encounter artefacts, places of worship and symbols. Pupils will also consider where they belong and the communities to which they are a part of.</p> <p>Christianity, Judaism & non-religious views - Unit 12 - How should we care for others and the world and why does it matter? - Within this unit, pupils will encounter stories and texts that say something about different people being unique and valuable, making links to Christian and Jewish worldviews and the belief that God loves all people.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2yxb7h</p>
RSHE	<p>Road Safety - Pupils will understand why it's important to stay safe when crossing a road, recognise a range of safe places to cross a road, understand the difference between safe and risky choices and know different ways to stay safe.</p> <p>Growing in our World - Pupils will understand the needs of a baby, be able to recognise what you can do for yourself now you are older, describe common features of family life and why families are special and unique.</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zst3g7h</p>
French	Under the Sea

Reading

We will continue to change your child's book on 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

Home learning will be sent every Monday on Google Classroom.

Clothing

As the weather warms up, please ensure children are coming to school with a named summer hat and wearing sun cream when necessary.

Thank you for your continued support this term. As always, if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us via the year 1 email address year1@homerswood.herts.sch.uk

Kind Regards,
Mrs Penny, Mrs Bate and Mrs Mills