



Friday 17th April 2026

Dear Year 1 Parents and Carers,

We hope you have all had a restful Easter break and very much look forward to the term ahead! We have high hopes for some nice weather in the weeks ahead. Please help your child be prepared by providing a named sunhat (it could stay in their drawer for the term if you'd prefer!) and applying suncream before school but also considering a coat or raincoat if needed too!

Curriculum

This term our topic 'Shoot for the moon!' has a history focus, where we will explore the moon landing! Please find our Topic Web overleaf which outlines how we are covering the curriculum this term. You will also find our key vocabulary attached and we would encourage children who speak additional languages at home to talk about the topic and vocabulary in their home language too, as this is proven to be helpful with understanding in class.

PE and Library

Our PE day remains a Friday. Children will need an indoor **PE kit** in school (plain shorts/PE trousers or leggings and a t-shirt). This should be in school all week and may be left on their peg for the term. **Library books** are due in on Monday and should be placed in the box in the classroom. The class will then go to the library in the afternoon and choose a new book. These books can be changed at other points in the week too, if children put their book in the box in the morning and choose to visit the library at lunchtime.

Homework and Reading books

A Maths activity will usually be set on Doodle maths each Friday though we love it when the children also complete the '5 a day' to consolidate learning. On Friday children will receive one reading book (a 'Book BAG' book), linked to their Phonics lessons in school, and another reading book at their reading level to share with you. Please ensure all books are in their book bags each day -thank you! The book bag books will be taken out each Wednesday and meticulously checked back in as they are extremely precious to us as they are specific to our chosen phonics scheme. The other reading book will be taken out each Friday.

Diary dates

Tuesday 14 th April	Class photos
Wednesday 22 nd April	Year 1 trip to 'Science Oxford'. Information sent out prior to the holiday. Check Class Dojo in the lead up for further weather-related information.
Sunday 17 th May	SASA fun run TBC
Friday 22 nd May	Last day of term – 3.20pm

Communication

If you have an urgent message regarding your child, please email or phone the school office as we cannot check our messages during the school day. If you have a non-urgent message, please feel free to use ClassDojo and we will endeavour to reply as soon as possible. Please keep an eye on ClassDojo for any upcoming dates or events. Children should be dropped off at the gate into the Year 1 outdoor area in the morning.

Other information

Miss Noble will continue her placement in our class for the first two weeks of term before returning to her main placement at Headington Quarry. Mrs Vesterinen will be joining the Year 1 team for the remainder of the year. Mrs Vesterinen is an experienced Teaching Assistant who has worked in Year 1 before and knows this class from last year – she will be a fantastic addition to our team.

How you can get involved

In Year 1 we have a junk modelling station as part of our Continuous Provision. We are always grateful for donations of 'junk' – clean cardboard, boxes, tubes, plastics – for children to reimagine into something new! (Please be mindful of what these are though- e.g. there is a certain toilet roll brand who have inappropriate language printed on their rolls and we would not wish to share this with children.)

We are always looking for scrap paper – if you have scrap paper or leftover paper, card, envelopes that are blank on at least one side and could be used by children, we would be grateful for it. (Again, please be aware of appropriateness of anything printed on paper and of GDPR.)

If you read our topic web and think you have a related specific skill or knowledge-set that could enrich the curriculum for our Year 1 children, then do let us know via Class Dojo and we can look into arranging a visit from you to our classroom.

As it feels more spring-like, the garden area by our classroom will need more maintenance – if you ever have a spare 10 minutes or so at the end of the day, any help with weeding etc would be appreciated to aid us in keeping on top of it.

Martha Hayday (parent of a Y2 and Reception child) often brings litter picking equipment to drop-off as part of the Headington Wombles initiative. We are grateful for her help in keeping our site tidy and appreciate anyone else who would wish to help in this way.

We're looking forward to a great summer term ahead with the wonderful Year 1 children.

Best wishes,
Mrs Loveday and Mrs Band