

Top tips for Year 1 parents and carers!



- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 10-15 minutes three a week is much better than a longer sessions once a week. We ask that children bring their reading book into school every day so that your child can be read with weekly with an adult. Your child's book will be changed every Monday.
- A big part of reading is talking about the book. Ask a variety of questions, such as 'Tell me what has happened so far? How is the character feeling? What do you think is going to happen next?' This will encourage your child to give their own opinions about events and characters in the book.
- Practise counting every day. By the end of Year 1, children should be able to count to and from 100 in steps of 1. They should also be able to count in 2's 5's and 10's.
- Ask your children about activities they have done at school and what they have been learning about. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Take an interest in their home learning tasks; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
- Encourage your child to become more independent when getting dressed and tying their shoe laces. This helps when getting ready for PE.
- Your child has recently been given flashcards to learn to read/spell at home. Please practise these often—it really does make a difference!

Attendance and Punctuality



Please ensure your child is **on-time** for school every day. There is a staff member 'on duty', on the playground, from 8.45. Doors to classrooms open at 8.50. Good **attendance** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.

Grangetown Primary School ~ Enjoy - Respect - Achieve

Year 1 Spring 2



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Spring Term 2! I hope you all had a fabulous half term holiday and are ready to learn! We had an amazing half term in Spring 1 and it's been wonderful to see the children grow in their learning and abilities. We have some brilliant learning activities planned for this half term that I know your child is going to enjoy!

We hope that by working together we can make this term a happy and very productive one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning. The children all worked to the best of their ability last term and I know we will keep up the hard work this half term.

Coming up this half term we will be having fun exploring a range of subjects such as History, Science and Religious Education. In English, we will be looking at the books 'Leaf' and 'Shine'. In History, we will be learning about the demolition of our old school. In Science we will be looking at plants and flowers that grow in gardens and in the wild and in Religious Education we will be continuing to learn about Judaism.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat (the best time is at 3.15 pm). We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

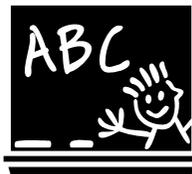
Yours sincerely

Miss Tose and Miss Nixon



Please look inside...

Some Important Reminders...



Start of the day. We would be grateful if you would ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The bell will ring at 8.50. Children who arrive late are missing out on important information and instructions for the day and miss the first part of our day and early bird activities.

End of the day. School finishes at 3.15pm. Year 1 children must be collected by an adult from the classroom door. Please inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please also label items of PE kit. It is important that children bring a coat to school everyday, especially now with Winter looming! Hats, scarves and gloves would be beneficial too!

Reading. Your child has a guided reading session twice a week with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book on a 1:1 basis with an adult in class each week. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned everyday. A shared reading session at home is very valuable. Once you have read with your child, please leave a comment and a signature in their home link books. Books will be changed every **Monday**.

PE. This term P.E. lessons will be on a **Monday afternoon**. Please ensure that your child has a full P.E. kit including a plain top, plain shorts and comfortable black plimsolls. No jewellery should be worn on P.E. days and long hair should be tied back.

Learning from home. Tasks will be set on a Friday and is to be returned on a Tuesday. Please encourage your child to complete and return homework as this is a chance for them to further develop skills which have been taught in class.

Flashcards: Your child has a set of flashcards which have been sent home to learn to read/spell. Please practise these as much as possible at home.

Thank you for your continued support, it really makes a difference!

This terms text is 'Leaf and Shine'. Leaf is a fantastic book written by Sandra Dieckmann and will be used to write a short narrative.

Shine by Sarah Asuruo will be used in English to write a character description. In guided reading, we will be looking at Poetry linked to the seasons and nature.

English

Using the book 'Leaf', we will be writing a narrative which focuses on having a beginning, middle and end, includes correct punctuation including exclamation marks and has adjectives to describe characters and settings. We will conduct a debate to argue if the woodland animals should be afraid of Leaf the Polar Bear or not. Then, using the book 'Shine', we will be writing a report based on a character which will include a main heading and sub headings.

Maths

This half term, we will be looking at measurement including measuring length, height and weight. We will begin by using practical resources such as cubes to measure height and length and will be introduced to language such as longer, shorter and taller. We will compare objects to see which is the tallest/shortest. We will then begin to learn how to use a ruler for measuring! When measuring weight, we will use balance scales to compare the weight of two objects.

Science

This half term we will be continuing to explore plants and trees. We will go into our school grounds and identify deciduous and evergreen trees. We will then explore their leaves and sort them according to their shape and edges.

Computing

We will be learning the art of coding using the iLearn2 website. We will learn how to use commands to make a character move through a maze. We will also learn how to programme beebots to move in different directions and to a desired location.

Design Technology

This half term, we will be linking our study of Judaism and making potato latkes! We will learn how to use equipment safely and think about health and hygiene such as washing hands and making sure our equipment is clean.

History

In History, we will be learning all about the old school building 'Commercial Road School' and why it was demolished. We will find out what a school day was like in the old school by asking Mrs Millican and Miss McLoughlin questions.

P.E.

This half term, we will be learning new skills in Tennis! We will learn the name of the equipment used such as racquet and ball and will learn how to hit the ball with the racquet accurately, We will learn how to control and stop the ball also.

R.E.

We will be continuing to study the religion of Judaism where we will be learning all about the celebration of Hanukkah. We will learn about a Jewish place of worship and what happens in the Synagogue.

Personal, Social, Health Education

We will be learning how to be healthy and how to stay safe. We will have Walkwise visit us every Wednesday for 5 weeks to learn how to cross the road safely.