

Top tips for Year 1 parents and carers!



- Try to listen to your child read regularly. 10-15 minutes three times 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 it can be changed if necessary and so that they can read with an adult.
- 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 up to 100!
- Ask your children about activities they have done at school and what they have been learning about. Ask what they have learnt about in History or Geography for example!
- 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.

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 1



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Spring term! I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas Holidays and are raring to go! We had a fantastic Autumn term in Year 1 and I am so proud of the children for the work they produced and the effort they put into lessons. 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 '**Where do different people live?**'. In English, we will be looking at Rapunzel who lived in a Castle. In Geography we will be comparing Cities, Towns and Villages. In Science we will be looking at plants and flowers that grow in gardens and in the wild and in Art we will be studying the work of Beatriz Milhazes.

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.

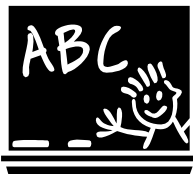
Yours sincerely

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.

PE. This term P.E. lessons will be on a **Wednesday 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 at home. Tasks will be set on a Friday and is to be returned on a Thursday. 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.

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

This terms 'Learning Theme' (topic) Where do different people live?

We will be having fun exploring cities, towns and villages this half term, whilst also looking at Rapunzel who lived in a Castle in the woods. We will be visiting a Castle this half term too which is very exciting!

English

Using the book 'Rapunzel', we will be writing a narrative which will include language that you would find in a fairy-tale such as 'Once upon a time' and 'Happily ever after'. The stories will have three distinctive parts; a beginning, middle and end and will set the scene and describe each character well. We will be also writing a recount of our visit to Hylton Castle which will be in time order and will include words such as first, next, then, finally.

Maths

This half term, our focus in Maths will be place value of numbers between 0 and 20. We will be exploring how to put these numbers in order, find one more and one less than a given number and compare these numbers. We will then move onto addition and subtraction with numbers between 0 and 20. We will be crossing 10 when adding and subtracting which will take a little bit of practise! We will support our learning with concrete resources such as counters and rekenreks.

Science

This half term we will be exploring plants and flowers. First, we will find out the names of common garden flowers and plants and will then walk to Backhouse Park to see what is beginning to grow. We will learn the names of the parts of a plant.

Computing and Information & Communication Technology

We will be learning about recognising the uses of ICT. We will explore what a computer is and what we use them for. We will identify ICT around our home and school.

Art and Design

The artist we are studying this half term is Beatriz Milhazes linked to our Science lessons. We will study colour and shapes used by Beatriz which resemble flowers and recreate them using ICT, paint and also by printing/collage.

Geography

We will be looking at similarities and differences of cities, towns and villages by looking at features found within them. We will be using the story of the 'Town Mouse and the Country Mouse' to help us understand the differences.

P.E.

This half term, we will be learning new skills in Gymnastics! We will be learning how to balance carefully, how to create different shapes using our bodies and how to roll safely. We will get the equipment out and learn how to use it safely!

R.E.

We will be looking at Judaism and what it means to be a Jew. We will look at objects which are special to Jews and learn about the Sabbath and the celebration of Hanukah.

Personal, Social, Health Education

We will be making goals for the upcoming half term and think about what we need to do to achieve them. We will also be learning how to work as a team.