

# Year 1 Newsletter 1.5.26



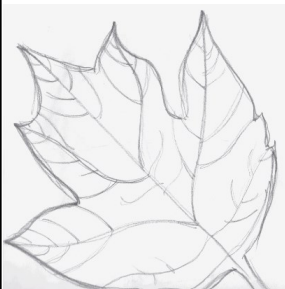
## A great start...



The children have come back brilliantly after the holidays and are eager to get stuck in to everything on offer in Year 1 this term. The after school clubs have proved to be very popular and it is lovely to see so many children taking the opportunity to try something new whether it be yoga, origami, football or summer sports.

## Curriculum

In history this half term we are learning about the history of our local area. We began by finding out about the Spanish City and compared pictures of the area from 100 years ago with more recent ones. It was interesting to see how the area has changed but the children were also surprised at how different the clothes people wore were. We looked at some of the changes that had happened over the years and compared pictures from then and now. The children were particularly interested to know that their parents and grandparents might have visited the original funfair before it closed. If you have any photographs or memories of the area you would like to share with us please get in touch, we would love to see and hear about them.



Our art this half term focusses on plants and we began by going outside and looking closely at the colours, shapes and sizes of all the different leaves we could find growing around the school ground. We collected any leaves that had already fallen off and brought them into the classroom then the children had a go at some observational drawing of the leaves. We then sketched along with an artist on a video so we could follow the instructions to create three different leaves. We were very impressed with the children's attention to detail. We then took this further by looking closely at and sketching whole plants, using our shading skills from our last art unit to define light and dark areas. The children really enjoyed looking at each other's artwork to see how unique each piece of art was.

In English we have been learning the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We have been thinking about which characters are 'good' or 'bad' and justifying our view, we have written a letter to Jack from the Giant, helping us to understand how the Giant is feeling and we have begun to think about how we could innovate the story by changing the characters and setting to make our own version.



Our science this half term focuses on plants and there have been lots of opportunities to learn about plants as we look after our growing vegetables in the allotment. With all this lovely sunshine, we have needed to ensure the plants have plenty of water. We have also been learning the names of plants we might find growing locally, see if your child can name any plants in your garden or that you see on the way to school.

## Warmer weather

As the sun shines on us this term, just a reminder to ensure all jumpers, cardigans and coats have names inside them. Children often take them off at playtimes and it is very difficult to ensure they go home with the right person if they are not named. Sun cream should be applied before school as we often spend time outdoors as part of our learning. Sending a sun hat with your child is also advised, they can keep it in their drawer during the day so it is always handy for them when we go outside. We appreciate your support with this.



## Phonic Screening

In June, the children in Year 1 are required to complete a statutory phonic screening check. This is completed in a very low key manner one-to-one with their teacher and the children will not be aware they are doing anything different. We have added a presentation to the Year 1 page of the school website with further information about how the check is carried out, how we are supporting the children in school and how you can support your child at home. Please speak to a member of the Year 1 team if you have any questions.

## Egg-citing news in Year 1!

We're delighted to share that we have welcomed some very special new additions to our classroom incubator. Last Wednesday, we carefully placed some tiny bantam eggs inside, kindly gifted to us by a wildflower farm in Northumberland. The chicks will return to the farm once they've hatched, but for now we're enjoying watching over them as they develop. With a 21 day incubation period, we're eagerly counting down to Wednesday 13th May, when our fluffy new arrivals are due to make their debut. Exciting times ahead for Year 1!



## Dates for your Diary

Monday 11th May—class photos

Thursday 21st May - last day of term

Friday 22nd May Teacher training day—school closed

Monday 1st June - beginning of term

Tuesday 16th June - Year 1 Sports Day 2pm

**Advance notice** - Year 1 trip to the Baltic and The Glasshouse to take part in 'The Big Sing for Mini Singers' on Thursday 2nd July.

**Advance notice**—Summer Fair Friday 3rd July



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