

Year One Newsletter Autumn 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school. We hope you had a lovely summer and were able to enjoy some time with your families and friends. We are excited about getting to know the new Year Ones and we hope they will be excited to be back with all their friends. Making sure that everyone is happy and settled is our top priority. Year One is an exciting year when children make lots of progress in their independence and it is always lovely to see them maturing and becoming more confident.

Learning through play

Children will spend most of the day following their own interests in play, just as they did in Early Years. They will be able to explore areas such as sand, construction, small world and workshop in the classroom, with bigger and more physical play encouraged outside. Through play, children learn vital skills such as sharing, negotiation, perseverance and resilience.

Focus Children, Observations and Parent meetings

In Year 1, we will continue the focus children system which began in Early Years. Starting in the week beginning 16th September, the Year One staff will be focussing on 3 children each week. In the following week, parents/carers will have an opportunity to speak to Mrs Jones to discuss how their child is getting on at school. We will send home a letter letting you know that it is your child's focus week and offering you times to meet. Every child will have a focus week and parent-teacher meeting once in the autumn term and once in the spring or early summer term. These meetings are instead of the school parent-teacher appointments arranged for children in Years 2-6 in October and February.



English

Our aim is to foster a love of books and reading for enjoyment and information. We will visit the school library once a week on **Wednesdays** when children will be able to choose a book to share with you. This will be a book for you to read to them and enjoy together; they may be able to read some words, but will generally not be able to manage this book on their own. Please return this book every Wednesday so that you child can swap it for a new book. They will also bring home a reading book once a week; this is a book they will have practised at school three times in a group with an adult. They should be able to read it fairly independently. The aim is for you to celebrate their achievements, with the occasional prompt should they need it. Children will have a plastic wallet to keep their reading book safe and a reading diary where you can record books they have read at home. Reading books will generally be changed on Thursdays or Fridays, so please make sure they are in school on those days.

Maths

The children will be following the National Curriculum for maths. We will use lots of practical activities, real objects and games to help children embed mathematical concepts. Talking about maths and explaining what you know, why and how, is a vital part of maths learning and something that it is very easy to help with at home. Lists of sums are definitely not necessary! There will be suggestions in the weekly note and the homework menu.

Science

The children will be learning about materials. During the term, they will also be learning about seasonal change through lots of outdoor activities.

Topic

Our topic this term is Schools. We will be talking about what our school is like and exploring who works here and what they do. We will look at the school building and identify different parts, as well as contrast it with the old school building. We will talk about what school was like when family members were young.

Religious Education

Year One's key question this term is: 'Who is a Christian and what do they believe?' We will explore this question through stories and creative activities, as well as a visit to Heslington church.

Physical Education

Year 1 will have PE on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**. Please send all PE kit to school. PE kit is:

- white t-shirt
- dark shorts or jogging bottoms
- dark sweatshirt
- socks
- trainers

Long hair needs to be tied back.

Stud earrings should be removed or taped up. Please provide micropore tape for this.

PE kit can sometimes be used if children get wet or very dirty while playing, so it is useful to have spare underwear and socks in the PE bag as well.

We cannot stress enough how important it is for your child to have **all** their clothes and shoes clearly **named**. This makes them so much more confident and independent and means you get them back if they are misplaced.

Forest School

Year 1 forest school sessions are on **Wednesday afternoons**.

The children will need clothes appropriate for the weather:

- wellington boots/snow boots
- waterproof trousers
- warm, waterproof coat with hood
- warm socks
- hat/sunhat/gloves/scarf



Wellies may be kept in the wooden storage unit outside the classroom. Remember to name everything so that mislaid items can be returned to the right person.

Homework

The most important work to do at home is for your child to read their reading book and to share lots of other stories together. On the website, there will also be a short menu of suggestions for things to do at home if you would like to use them. We'd love to hear about what children have been getting up to, so do let us know via Tapestry.

Things to remember:

- School starts at **8:40am**. The cloakroom door will close at **8.50am prompt**. A member of staff will be at the door to welcome children.
- Your child will need a book bag or similar to carry their books and planner to school.
- Children will be provided with a snack of fruit or vegetable during the morning and afternoon so there is no need to send snacks to school.
- We have water jugs and cups freely available to children all day and will be encouraging them to use them as often as they wish. Water bottles are not needed until your child goes into Year Two.
- School finishes at **3:15pm** and children will be handed over to the appropriate adult by a member of staff.
- If your child is going home with someone who is not on your list of adults collecting please ensure a member of staff knows.
- Please let us know if you wish to add adults to the list of who can collect your child.
- Our weekly newsletter will be sent out each Monday and will give information about what is happening in class.
- Quick messages can be passed on when you drop off or pick up your child, but if you have any questions or concerns, you can email Mrs Jones or we can arrange a meeting.

We really look forward to working with you and your children.

Julia Jones

Ann Bradley

Lucy Jennings

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Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter
<https://www.facebook.com/lordderamoresprimaryschool/>

@lordderamores www.lordderamores.com

Dates for Diaries (more details to follow)

Thursday 12th September 2.45pm WELCOME MEETING Year 1 classroom

Wednesday 2nd October 9.00am Phonics and early reading information meeting for parents/carers

Thursday 10th October Harvest Festival collection

Thursday 24th October Pumpkin Competition and FOLD Halloween Disco

Friday 25th October Break up for half term holiday

Monday 4th November Return to school

Friday 15th November Non-uniform day for Children in Need

Wednesday 4th December 2.15pm Phase 1 Nativity (families welcome)

Thursday 4th December 9.15am Phase 1 Nativity (families welcome)

Friday 6th December FOLD Christmas Fair

Monday 18th December Phase 1 Christmas party

Tuesday 17th December Visit to Theatre Royal Pantomime

Wednesday 18th December Christmas dinner

Thursday 19th December Break up for Christmas holiday