



Holmer Green
First School and Pre-School

Year One Meet the Teacher





Year One Team



Mrs Richardson



Mrs Brades



Miss Crossley



Mrs Cawley



Miss Broome



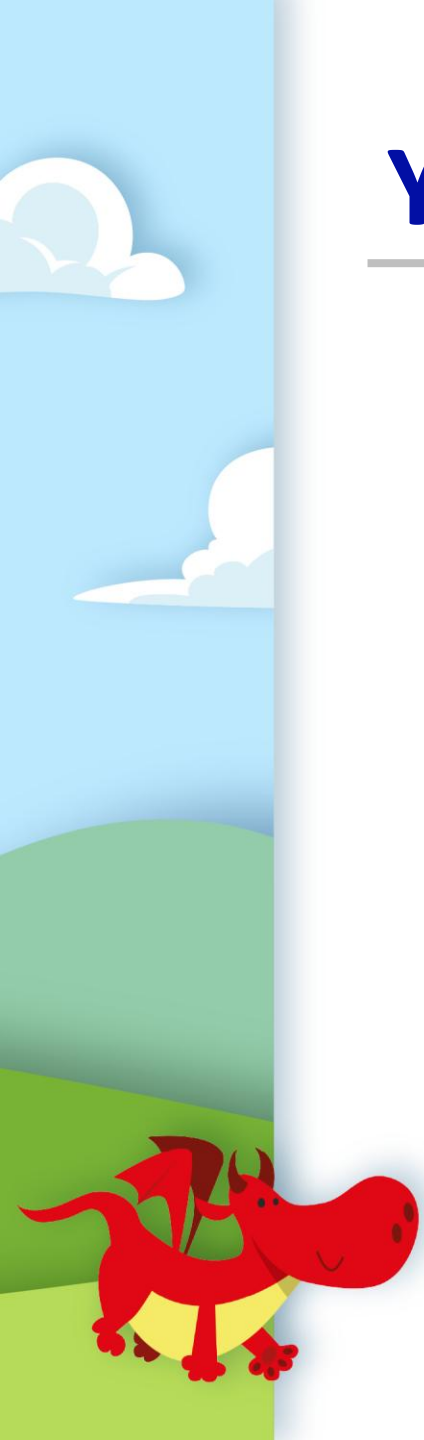
Miss Bond



Mr Pinner



Miss Ridgely





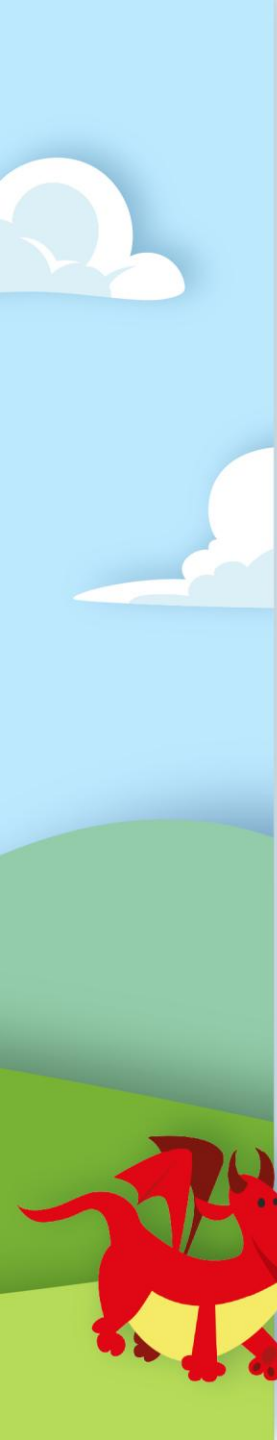
Core Curriculum Subjects

Maths

- We follow White Rose Maths using a mastery approach. This means children spend time consolidating and applying their learning until they are confident.
- Mastering Number helps all children develop strong number sense, fluency in calculation, and confidence with numbers.
- Maths resources are always available in the classroom, so children can use them independently during Continuous Provision.

Literacy

- Children Explore a wide range of texts to inspire their writing (e.g. stories, diaries, letters, and instructions).
- Across the year, we study fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, including different stories by the same author.
- Writing, spelling, punctuation, and grammar skills are taught and practised through these lessons.





Reading

Please try to read with your child each evening. We see a huge difference in the reading abilities of children who read regularly at home and those who do not. We understand everyone is busy, even if you manage to read twice a week with your child (their school book) it makes a huge difference.

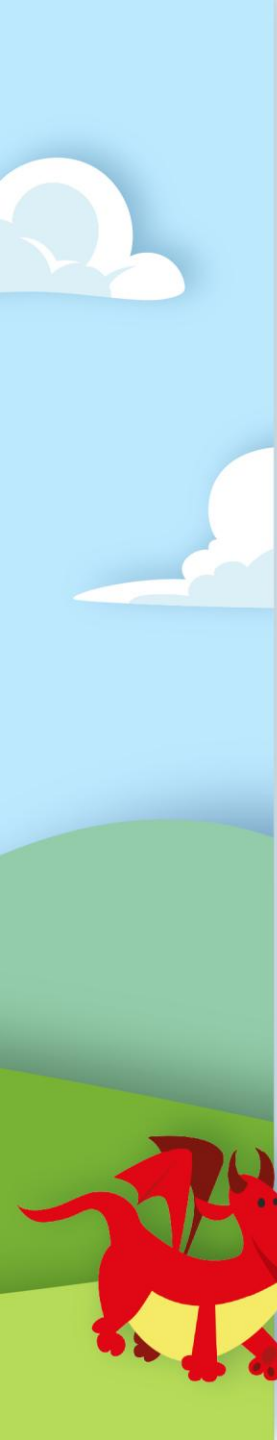
Record each read in your child's reading record.

Books must be read 3 times before being changed (on Mondays and Thursdays).

Reading 3 times helps children to:

- Decode – sound out words and recognise common exception words.
- Develop fluency and prosody – read with expression and fluency.

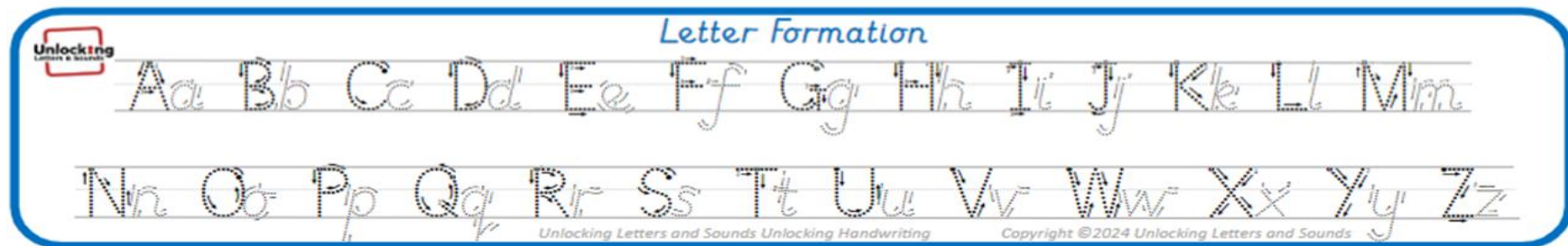
Comprehend – build comprehension and enjoy the story more deeply.





Phonics, Spelling and Handwriting

- Children are taught phonics every day, building on what they already know.
- Spelling lessons focus on learning common exception words.
- These are words that don't always follow usual spelling rules or use letter patterns in unusual ways (e.g. "said").
- Phonics still helps with these words, but children need extra practice to remember their spelling
- In handwriting children develop an effective pencil grip and master the correct formation of numbers, lowercase and uppercase letters, letter families, ascenders and descenders.





Sound Mats – Phase 5

 a	 e ea	 i y	 o a	 u o	 ai ay a-e ey a ei eigh	 ee ea e-e ey e y ie	 igh ie i-e i y	 oa oe o-e ow o	 oo ue ew u-e ou
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 (y)oo ue ew u-e u	 oo u oul	 ar a al	 or aw au al our augh oor ore	 air are ear ere	 ur ir er ear or	 ow ou	 oi oy	 ear ere eer	 ure	 er u
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 f ff ph	 l ll le	 m mm mb	 n nn gn kn	 r rr wr	 s ss se c ce	 v ve	 z zz s se	 sh ch ti ci s/ss	 th	 ng
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 b bb	 c k ck ch	 d dd	 g gg	 h	 j g ge dge	 p pp	 qu	 t tt	 w wh	 x	 y	 ch tch t
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Common Exception Words

said	have	like
so	do	some
come	were	there
little	one	when
out	what	

oh	their	people	Mr	Mrs
looked	called	asked	water	where
who	again	thought	through	mouse
work	many	laughed	because	different
any	eyes	friends	once	please





Phonics Screening Check

- The check shows how well your child can use their phonics skills and helps identify anyone who may need extra support.
- It is a short assessment (about 5–10 minutes) carried out one-to-one with a teacher.

What happens?

- Your child will read 40 words and non-words (made-up “alien” words that follow phonics rules).
- The check is split into two parts: Simple words (3–4 letters) and more complex words (5–6 letters)
- Practice words are given first so your child knows what to do. Alien pictures are shown with the non-words so children know they aren’t real words.

When?

The Phonics Screening Check will take place in the summer term of 2026. You can view past papers on the Department for Education website.

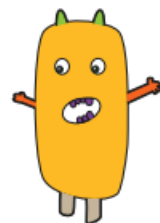




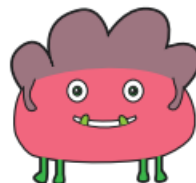
Example Words

Section 1

yech



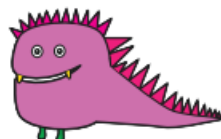
quog



loip



chuss



Section 2

spelt

floats

scrub

scribe





Theme and Non-core Subjects

- Theme covers Art, D & T (including cookery), History and Geography.
- Each theme will either run for a whole term or half a term.
- You will also receive a Knowledge Organiser that will be sent home termly. It will let you know what the children will be learning and how you can support at home.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Lamp, Light, Action	Ready, Steady, Gogh	Dungeons and Dragons		Land Ahoy!	

- Computing- Taught weekly. The children have access to a class desktop computer, laptops, iPads and Bee Bots. We teach programming using the Bee Bots and other computing lessons focus on using particular apps on the iPad. We also teach about online safety.
- Music- Taught weekly. Children will explore pulse, rhythm and pitch. Sing, rap and dance along to a beat. Listen to and appraise a range of music styles.
- RE and PSHE- Taught weekly. Discussion based circle time.





Continuous Provision

Continuous Provision is the range of carefully planned areas and resources that are available for children to access and explore throughout the day.

It provides opportunities to:

- Explore and apply learning across different areas of the curriculum, including STEM, construction, small world, creative and communication.
- Practise and embed taught skills and knowledge independently.
- Explore, investigate and develop their own ideas and interests.
- Revisit learning over time to deepen understanding and make connections.
- Develop independence, resilience, curiosity, creativity and teamwork.
- Strengthen communication and vocabulary through purposeful talk with adults and peers.

Provision reflects current and previous learning, enabling children to revisit, apply and secure their knowledge across the curriculum.





Continuous Provision



Spelling Shed



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As well as focusing on phonics in Year One, we also focus on spelling to ensure that by the end of Year One, children are able to spell many common exception words correctly.

Spelling Shed is an App that we use to practise spelling words containing sounds that the children have learnt and common exception words.

Children will use this in guided groups and it is available in Continuous Provision.

Each child is provided with their own QR code so that they are able to log on as themselves and complete the different levels. This can be accessed from home too.

Children will only be able to access Year One word lists.

Children earn tokens each time they play, the number of tokens will depend on if they spell the word correctly and how quickly they spell it. Children can then spend their tokens on different items to customise their avatar.





Homework

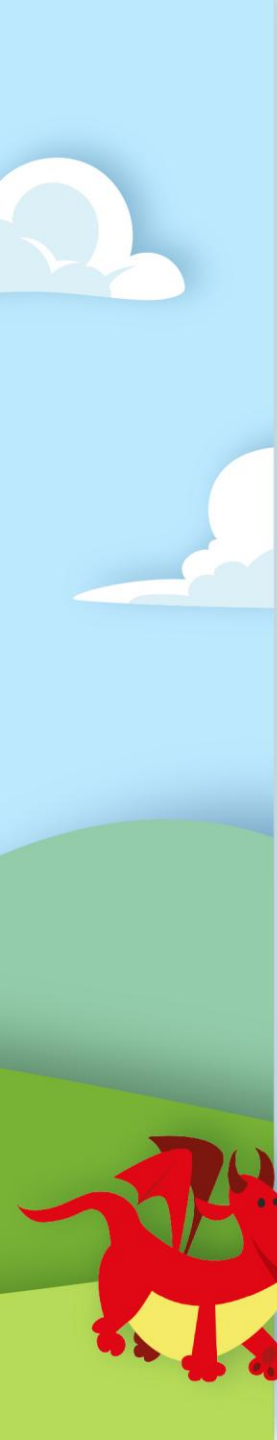
- Every child should have the opportunity to read to an adult at home every day. Please comment in your child's Reading Record when your child has read and once the book has been read three times and there are three comments, we will change your child's book.
- Each half term every child will receive a Homework Bingo Board. There are a selection of activities covering all areas of the curriculum that your child can complete. Choose one activity each week and upload it to Seesaw. The activities will relate to the theme for that term and current learning.
- Continue to practise learning the sounds that have been taught at school and to read and spell common exception words.





Tapestry

- Tapestry is used from Pre-School/Reception up to Year Two to record your child's learning journey.
- At the end of Year Two, you can download their full journal as a keepsake.
- We use Tapestry to capture special “*wow*” moments. It isn't used to record their whole day.
- Staff usually share a photo or video linked to the curriculum. We keep writing to a minimum, as we believe time is better spent interacting with the children (a picture speaks a thousand words!).
- Parents can also upload photos and videos for staff to see.





Personal Development

Autumn Term

Thursday 22nd October: Immersive full day 'History off the page' workshop at school-Florence Nightingale **£15.60**

Spring Term

Friday 5th March: Dr Dolittle – Image Musical Theatre **£4.00**

Monday 15th March: Indian drumming workshop and performance **£6.30**

Summer Term

Thursday 20th May: Waddesdon Manor (No cost as funded by Rothschild Foundation)

Magic Booking

Trips and visits have been carefully spread throughout the year to help families manage the cost. However, as the school is unable to subsidise these activities, they can only go ahead if sufficient voluntary contributions are received.





Forest School

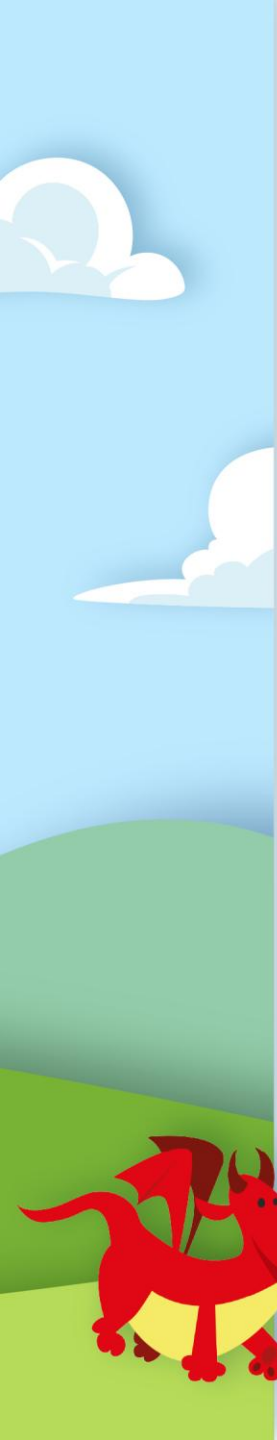
There is no such thing as bad weather at Forest School, we expect the children to get very muddy!

At Forest School, children learn outdoors in all weathers – and they will get muddy! Each class will take part once a term, experiencing the forest across the seasons.

Children can come to school in their Forest School clothes on the day.

- Long-sleeved top and trousers (to protect from nettles and insects)
- Snow boots or wellies + thick socks
- Waterproof coat with hood
- Gloves (ski gloves are best)
- Woolly hat for cold days / sun hat + sun cream for hot days

Waterproof over-trousers are provided by school.





NED Cards

_____ is just like NED because
|

Never give up, Encourage others,
Do your best!



- To celebrate very special achievements e.g. riding a bike without stabilisers or tie shoe laces independently.
- A sheet of 2 will be sent home this week. These should last for several months. But if you would like some more, please ask your class teacher.

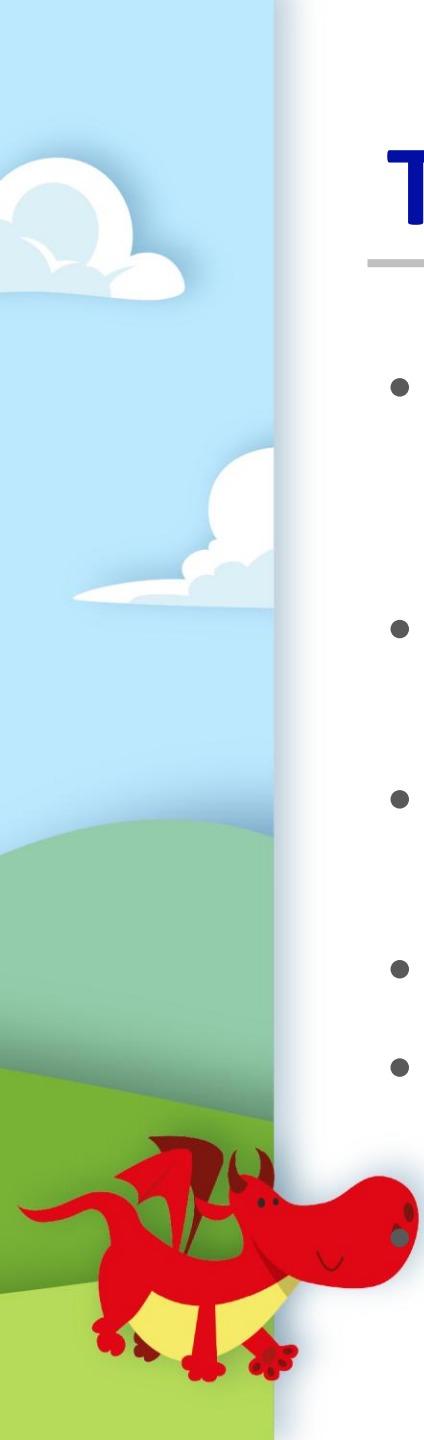




Things to Remember

- Year One children will visit our school library once a week on a Tuesday to choose a book to take home. Please ensure these are in bookbags every Tuesday so they can be changed.
- Children will keep their PE kit at school. They will be sent home at the end of half-term.
- In cold weather, children may wear black jogging bottoms or black leggings and school jumper.
- Children must have trainers in school (ideally with Velcro).
- Wellington boots do not need to stay in school. We will request them as and when we need them.

Label all school uniform, coats, hats and shoes.





Online Safety

- Very important in ensuring all children are safe online.
- Online safety lessons are taught each term and reinforced through out the year to ensure children use the internet safely and know what to do if they are a victim of Online Bullying.
- Some games, videos and apps are not appropriate for children and some of the characters in these can cause children to become upset and worried.
- Please refer to the age ratings on video games.

Huggy Wuggy



Siren Head



- Check restrictions on your devices (iPad, mobile phone) if your child can access them – Netflix, Youtube, Roblox.
- More information can be found on: <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>





Website

<http://www.holmergreenfirst.co.uk/>



SCAN ME



Stay up to date by linking our school calendar to your phone.



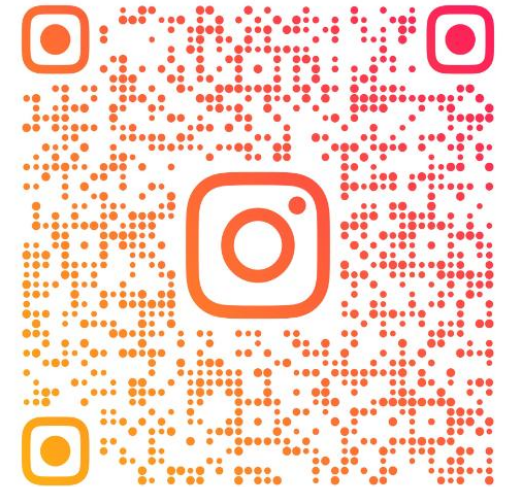
Instagram



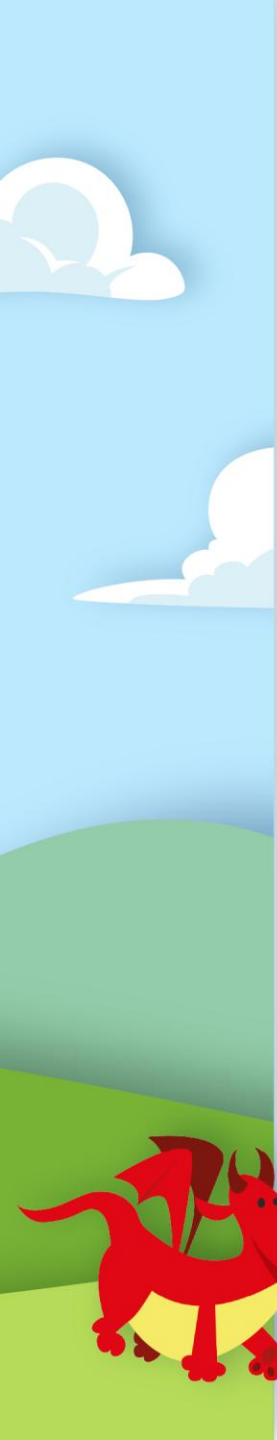
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@hgfs.learning.through.play

- We use Instagram to share photos and videos of:
- Classroom activities and special events like Sports Day and trips.
- Our classroom set-up and planned activities (to help you support your child at home or start conversations about their day!)
- Amazing work produced by the children.
- Our followers include parents and early years professionals, allowing us to celebrate learning and share our practice with others around the world.



HGFS.LEARNING.THROUGH.PLAY





Thank You!

Year One teachers will be on hand at the end of the day when we dismiss the children if you need a quick chat.

Each Wednesday after school from 3.10 - 3.30pm you are welcome to look at your child's work, books and displays in their classroom.

If you need to have a longer discussion, please do not hesitate to email or phone the office to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher.

