



Year One Newsletter 2025

Spring Term

Welcome back and a happy new year! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break! Thank you for your kind messages, cards and gifts.

Termly Topic

As always, we have a busy time ahead! We are excited to introduce our new topic 'Epic Explorers' which will hopefully captivate your children with tales of Shackleton, Cook and more modern day explorers such as James Cameron (yes...the movie director guy...who knew!). This topic allows for more cross-curricular links from the lovely texts we will be using in our English and guided reading sessions, to our history lessons and our DT unit where 'Pirate Paddy' has a packed lunch problem to solve!

Talking of Pirate Paddy, please could we have help with the following resources:

During the week commencing 29th January, all children will be attempting to make a lunch box that is waterproof, decorative and that can be transported across a rope from one ship to another! We would be very grateful if you could start a little recycling pile of materials that we could use. Items such as 'small' shoe boxes with a lid would be ideal as a starting point, together with smaller boxes or yogurt pots to make useful compartments and any other inventive packaging that could be useful! Miss Walker and I will have a bank of resources for children to use also!

Please remember that we can not accept any packaging that may have contained nuts.



Online Safety

This term, Miss Walker and I will be teaching online safety; a unit that is so important in today's connected age! Children will learn how to stay safe online using the 'SMART' acronym: **S**afe, **M**eeet, **A**cccept, **R**eliable, **T**ell. A poster is attached to give you more detail about each word.



Children have also had the opportunity to practice searching the internet using child-friendly search engines called 'Kiddle' and 'Safe Search Kids'. It is recommended, that these tools are used under adult supervision to ensure an even safer and guided online experience.

We would also like to draw attention to an excellent resource that is available on the 'Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre' website: https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/4_7/. This has a dedicated section for children aged between 4 and 7 year olds that further supports the safe use of the internet in an engaging way. Again, this is a tool that should be completed together and used as an opportunity for discussion for any questions or concerns that may arise.



New Reading Records



As communicated by Mrs Talbot earlier this week, we are pleased to be trialling the use of our new 'Bug Club Reading Records'. To echo key points, please use these to record both physical and online books that are read by your child. These will replace the use of 'Beanstalks' and children can now earn a tally when they have read five times – whether this is a whole book or a few pages.

Children will continue to have the opportunity to change their reading book every day or as and when needed. They are really good at handing these in when needed and we will be encouraging children to also hand in reading records at the point of exchange to assist with our tracking. If you have any questions, please let us know.

A little request...

Thank you for helping at pick up and respecting space at the classroom door. Please could this also extend to the morning drop off – it really does help for a smoother transition into the classroom for children and thinking much further ahead will begin to prepare them for Year 2 life!

And Finally...

A reminder to ensure your child is sent into school with suitable (and named) clothing for the colder weather such as warm coat, hats and gloves. Children will play outside in most conditions with the exception of heavy rain and we only have a very small supply of spare clothing. It would also be appreciated if children could practice putting items on and off independently.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Croucher and Miss Walker

Important dates to note:

Library days:

- Cedar Class – Every Tuesday
- Oak Class – Every Thursday

Forest School – bi-weekly every Wednesday afternoon.

PE with Coach Mike:

- Tuesday and Thursday afternoons