



# 2023 Year 1 Curriculum Letter AUTUMN

## Year 1 Curriculum Letter Autumn 2023

### Welcome to Year 1

Dear parents,

Welcome to a new school year at Dropmore. The children have settled in well and are enjoying their new learning environment. I am very pleased with how well they have remembered our morning routine.

The Year 1 Team:

- Class Teacher - Miss Tolmie
- Teaching Assistants - Mrs Cooper (Mon-Thur) & Ms Patterson (Fri)
- Learning Support Assistants - Mrs Dhanjal (Mon-Wed) & Mrs J-W (Thur-Fri)

This letter is to outline what we hope to cover in this very busy term!

### AUTUMN 2023 TIMETABLE – Year 1

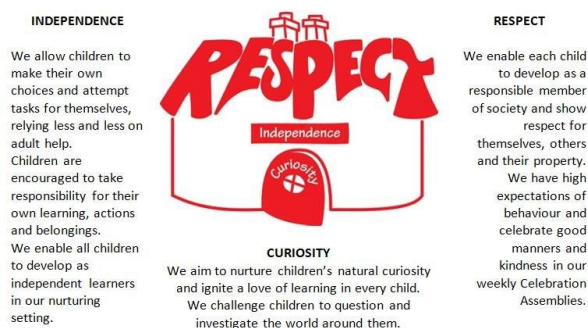
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Staff	Miss Tolmie, Mrs Cooper & Mrs Dhanjal	Miss Tolmie, Mrs Cooper & Mrs Dhanjal	Miss Tolmie, Mrs Cooper & Mrs Dhanjal	Miss Tolmie, Mrs Cooper & Mrs Johnson-Wernham	Miss Tolmie, Ms Patterson & Mrs Johnson-Wernham
8:45 – 9:00	Morning challenges Registration @ 8.55am	Morning challenges Registration @ 8.55am	Morning challenges Registration @ 8.55am	Morning challenges Registration @ 8.55am	Morning challenges Registration @ 8.55am
9:00 – 9:20	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Celebration Assembly
9:20 – 10:10	English	English	English	English	Mile-A-Day 9:30-9:50 9:50-10:10 Phonics
10:10 – 10:30	Assembly	Assembly	Assembly	Assembly	10:10-1:30 English
10:30 – 10:50	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:50 – 11:10	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading
11:10 – 12:00	Maths (mastering number 10 mins then curriculum content)	Maths (mastering number 10 mins then curriculum content)	Maths (mastering number 10 mins then curriculum content)	Maths (mastering number 10 mins then curriculum content)	Maths (mastering number 10 mins then curriculum content)
12:00 – 1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Afternoon	1:00 -1:50 Music 1:50 – 2:10 Mile-A-Day 2:10-3:00 Computing	1:00-2:20 Science 2:20-3:00 PSHE & Story	1:00-2:00 RE with Miss Douglas AT PPA 1.00 – 3.00 2:00-3:00 PE with Mrs ClarkeBuchanan	TOPIC 2:30 – 2:40 Mile-A-Day	1:00- 2:00 PE 2:00-3:00 TOPIC

## Meet the Teacher

You are invited to join Year 1 for meet the teacher on **Tuesday 19th September at 2pm**. We will have half an hour in the classroom where I will share information about the year ahead and then the children will join us so that they can show you their new classroom from their perspective. We will conclude the afternoon at 2:50 and dismiss as usual at 3:00.

## School Values

Our School Value this term is Independence. In Year 1 they will still be expected to complete a morning routine each day to prepare themselves for school, and they have all been given monitor jobs to assist me in creating a calm and safe space to learn in, giving them ownership of their learning environment. We will help them develop their responsibility for their own independent learning and they will soon have their own special book to present this work in.



## Phonics

The children will start each day with a 20-minute phonics lesson. This term they will be learning the last of their "pure sounds", before moving onto alternative phonemes (i.e. hat angel swan). They will also be expanding their repertoire of common exception (tricky non-phonetic) words. We will be continue to follow Lesley Clarke's Letters and Sounds scheme, further information can be found on our website.

Reading books and alternative reading material will be sent home to consolidate this learning. There will be regular, quick interventions for any children who need support.

## English

All of our learning in English is taught through quality texts to inspire and guide the children in their learning. Each lesson will give the children a chance to practise reading and comprehension skills. Throughout this term we will be covering a range of text types in our writing sessions:

- Fiction: Stories with Familiar Settings and Christmas Tales
- Poetry: Songs and Traditional Poems focusing on patterns and rhymes
- Non-Fiction: labels, Lists and Information texts, including creating a class book.

We have weekly handwriting sessions, developing fine motor skills and improving letter formation. During this term we will also start guided reading: in these sessions the children will learn new reading skills, develop their fluency and comprehension. An adult will hear each child read independently during this time. Note: as these sessions are only 20 minutes long **we do not write comments in your child's reading records**. Instead we may write in ad hoc feedback after a few sessions.

## Maths

At Dropmore we follow the White Rose framework, supported by Mastering the Curriculum scheme. During the Autumn term most of their work will be manipulating physical resources, introducing writing into a maths book later to ensure mathematical understanding is prioritised.

This term we will be revising and extending our knowledge in:

- Place value within 10 (including counting, ordering, grouping, comparing and ordinal numbers)
- Addition and subtraction within 10 (including fact families, number bonds, adding, finding part, subtraction, counting back, comparing number sentences)
- 2D and 3D shapes (recognising and sorting, patterns)

## Science

While the weather is beginning to change we will use our science lessons to develop our knowledge of the seasons, focusing particularly on Autumn. We will observe and describe the changes in weather, plants and animal behaviours. For the rest of the term we will be learning about animals, including humans: categorising by type and diet, comparing and sorting.

## Concept Curriculum

We are so excited to share our concept curriculum for this term!

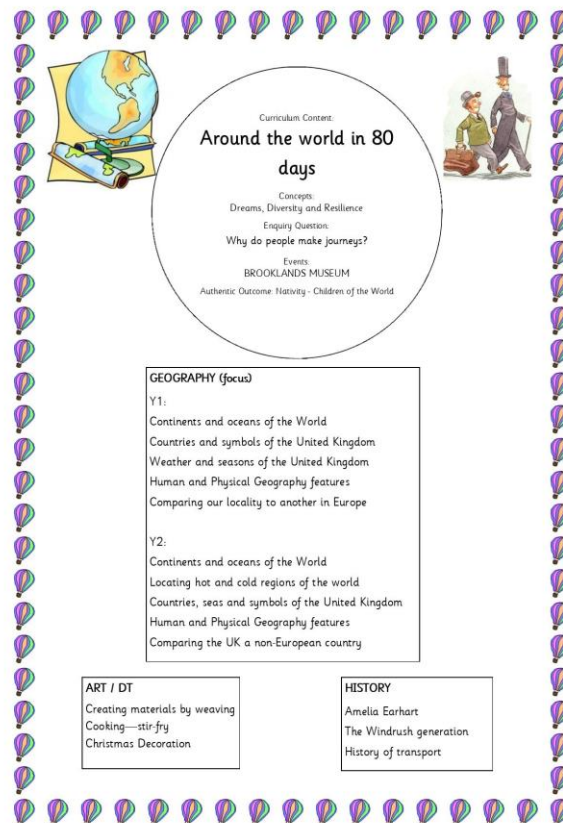
Our title is: Around the World in 80 Days

Focus Foundation Subject: Geography

Enquiry Question: Why do people make journeys?

Concept words: dreams, resilience, diversity

Please see our Concept Curriculum Map for more information.



## Music

We will be following Music Express curriculum-based music scheme. We will be exploring sounds, beat and pitch in our weekly music lessons. The children will also be learning many new songs and rehearsing known songs for our Harvest Assembly and Nativity. The children also participate in singing assemblies on a Tuesday.

## Computing

We will start the term reminding ourselves of some important e-safety rules: not sharing our username and password and remembering to logoff when finished. The children will then be practising basic mouse and keyboard skills to prepare them for the rest of our curriculum.

## PE (Physical Education)

On Wednesdays, the children will learn a sport with Mrs Clarke-Buchanan.

On Fridays we will do PE activities that further develop their balance, coordination and agility as well as their personal, social and cognitive abilities such as following instructions; working positively within a team; challenging ourselves and supporting and encouraging others.

On Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, the children will participate in Mile-a-Day, where they will have 10 minutes to travel around the field scoring points for their house. The Mile-a-Day Cup is handed out at the end of term. All children should have (ideally waterproof) trainers in school.

PE kits: all kits have now been checked in school. All children are encouraged to change independently: if items of clothing become too small to make this possible we will update you.

## PSHE (Personal, Social and Emotional Development)

As well as being woven throughout the curriculum and enhanced during regular 'well-being' assemblies, the children will participate in a weekly PSHE lesson. They will follow the 'Jigsaw' scheme and this term will complete activities related to 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference', as well as other lessons to focus on Dropmore and British Values. These lessons will specifically focus on enhancing each child's ability to recognise that we are all special and unique, developing a positive sense of themselves and others and learning to manage their feelings and behaviour to ensure that they work within our school rules.

## RE (Religious Education)

Children will develop their knowledge and understanding of different Religions, beliefs and practices, including festivals. This term we will be learning about the Christian creation story and the story of Christmas.

## Homework

In response to the feedback from the Parent Survey last year, we will be introducing weekly homework to Year 1. For homework the Year 1 children will be assigned:

**Reading:** (daily) Please record this in your reading records. Some comprehension activities may be suggested and there are also activities to do in your reading record. Reading books will be changed on a **Monday and Thursday**.

**English:** (weekly) All children will be provided with a homework book for English, which will be sent home on Thursdays and should be handed in by the following Tuesday. The English homework will consist of two parts:

Handwriting: Focus letters will be assigned for your child to practise on Letterjoin (see login details on the English page on our website) or in their homework book.

Phonics/spellings: words containing phonics and tricky words taught the week before will be set as homework to practise. You can also use this as handwriting practise.

**Maths:** (every half term) The children will be set a key instant recall fact (KIRF) each half term. This will include tips for practising little and often.

We will discuss this more at the 'meet the teacher' session.

## Reminders

- **Reading** - It is important that your child reads aloud to an adult **every day**. This can be from a book, a reading game (physical or online) and any other material that interests your child. A book does not have to be completed in one session, and should be read **at least twice** for comprehension and

resilience: **a book will not be changed if only read once**. To help with fluency it is important to ask your child to repeat a sentence after they have decoded it. Modelling reading techniques is invaluable. When your child is fluent (can read a sentence and only need to decode one word), you should also ask them about what they have read to check their understanding. You can support your child further by reading to your child from books and magazines **above** their reading ability to expand their vocabulary and comprehension.

- **Reading Records** – please record **all** kinds of reading practise in your new reading record and remember to use the activities included. Comments should be informative to help the staff support your child further in school.

- **Phonics** – please continue to practise the letter sounds, but **please take care** that you are using the **pure sounds** (mm not muh for 'm'). Please click this link for a Department of Education approved video demonstration. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW\\_v-1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s)

- **PE** - We have PE on a **Wednesday** and **Friday** afternoon. The children have already had two practise changing sessions in school, in which they did very well. Please help them practise undoing and doing up buttons, and turning clothes inside out at home.

- **Library** – Year 1 have their library session on a Monday morning, so please remember to send in your book. Remember to write this in your Reading Record.

- **Keyrings** – due to the lack of space in individual trays please can there be no more than **1 small keyring** on your child's bookbag. (Small: should fit inside your child's palm easily). All other keyrings will be removed on Monday 18th.

## Sign off

We are looking forward to working together and an exciting year ahead!

Miss Tolmie, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Dhanjal, Mrs J-W