

YEAR 1 NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1 2026

Welcome to another exciting half-term in Year One!
Our topic this half term is **THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON**.
Read on to see what we will be learning about!

ENGLISH	In English, we focus on The Great Fire of London. We will write recounts of how the fire spread, newspaper reports of the event, diary entries and learn the poem London's Burning. We will also be reading and writing our own versions of the story Vlad and the Great Fire of London.
MATHS	In Maths, we will be recapping counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be making equal groups and looking at arrays. We will also be putting numbers into groups and looking at sharing. Later in the half term, we will look at fractions by finding halves and quarters of shapes and numbers.
DT	In DT, we combine our learning with Science to plan, create and evaluate the construction of our own fire engine using levers, wheels and axles. We will practise drilling, screwing and gluing our materials to make and strengthen our product. Please send in any cardboard boxes the children could use to make their fire engines (anything the same size as a shoe box or smaller would be perfect).
SCIENCE	In Science, the children will look at the signs of summer and compare all four seasons. The children will also revisit our materials unit. They will plan and carry out an investigation where they will think about the properties of different materials and think about which materials are opaque and which are transparent.
HISTORY	In History, we focus on The Great Fire of London, discussing the key events and putting them on a timeline. We will also develop our skills of enquiry by hot-seating some of the key people involved. We also have a theatre group coming in to work with the children where they will explore the events that happened in the fire through role play and movement.
COMPUTING	In our Digital Writing unit, the children will develop their understanding of the various aspects of using a computer to create and manipulate text. They will become more familiar with using a keyboard and mouse to enter and remove text. They will also consider how to change the look of their text, and will be able to justify their reasoning in making these changes. Finally, learners will consider the differences between using a computer to create text, and writing text on paper. They will be able to explain which method they prefer and explain their reasoning for choosing this.
PSHE	In PSHE, we look at the unit Dear Diary. We think about who we love and why we love them. We also learn about people who help us. We think about how we can deal with any worries we have, and how we can support each other.
RE	In RE, we will be continuing our study on Judaism. Our two focus questions will be: What do Jewish people celebrate and why? What role does the synagogue play?
PE	In PE this half term, the children will be participating in athletics [mainly focusing on running], and dance. Please ensure your child comes to school dressed in the correct PE kit on our PE days: Mondays and Thursdays. As the weather gets hotter, please make sure that you send your child in with a suitable hat for PE.

PLEASE REMEMBER

WEATHER: As the weather warms up, please send your child in with a hat. Sun cream can be applied before you send your child to school. Please also remember to send in a water bottle daily with your child.

OUTDOOR LEARNING: The children will continue with their outdoor learning sessions in the summer term with Mr Rutherford. Please ensure your child has the correct footwear and clothing to be able to take part in these sessions. Both classes will continue to be on a Wednesday.

HOMEWORK: The children will continue to be issued with homework on a Friday. The homework should be returned by the following Wednesday. Spellings and maths target tests will also carry on as normal every Monday. The children have a new maths target this half term - telling the time to the nearest half an hour. Please also complete a minimum of 5 minutes each week on Numbots.

PHONICS: The children can use the Phonics Play website - www.phonicsplay.co.uk to practise their phonics. The 3 games - Dragons Den, Buried Treasure and Picnic on Pluto are the best 3 games to use. Here are the login details -
Username - chps92 Password - chcs3838

DIARY DATES:

Monday 20th April - Phonics Screening Meeting for Year 1 parents at 6pm.

Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday Monday

Tuesday 19th May - The Bubble Theatre Group will be in school working with the children in the morning. The theme will be The Great Fire of London.

Friday 22nd May - Break up for half term.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support. If you have any questions, or anything you wish to discuss, we are always around at the end of the day, or email the office and we will get back to you.

The Year 1 Team