



MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL



Year 1 Parents Information – Spring 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and happy New Year! Miss Wood and Miss Scott would like to begin by saying a huge thank you for all the generous cards and gifts we received for Christmas. It was very thoughtful of you to think of us at such a busy and expensive time of year. The Christmas performance was a great success and thank you again for all your support in preparation of this. This term we are expecting lots more of the children in terms of hard work and behaviour as they are now well settled into life in the top infants class in Year 1.

Autumn Term Topics

Literacy:

RWI Phonics – daily.

We will also be enhancing our love of literature through additional books that encourage children to have a broad and rich experience of fiction and non-fiction.

Adventure stories, Diary writing, Newspaper report, Instruction writing, Poetry as well as whole class and small group discussion. We will be extending knowledge of grammar, punctuation and spelling through these topics.

Numeracy:

Place Value (within 20 and 50), Addition & Subtraction (within 20), Length and Height and Mass and Volume

We will also be continuing to complete number bonds and tables using the Melling Number Passports – as much practice on Hit the Button is really beneficial to your children's success!

Science:

Exploring everyday materials and Plants.

History/ Geography:

What is the Weather like in the UK? How have toys changed?

Art & DT:

Pablo Picasso Portraits, Story book creators and weaving blankets.

R.E/PHSE:

What do Christians believe God is like? Who is Jewish and what do they believe?

Music:

Listen and appraise a piece of music, musical activities, performing (both singing and playing) This is the format for several musical units during the year, e.g. this term one of the units is hip-hop.

Computing:

My Friend the Robot: In this unit children will learn all about computational thinking and problem solving with a variety of unplugged activities and online coding games.

Please discuss these topics with your child and, if possible, visit a library and share some books linked to the above themes. Your child is very welcome to bring any information that they find out at home into school to share with the rest of the class.

Reading

A gentle reminder about reading. Reading at home will alleviate some of the pressure within school and ensure your child has a wonderful, broad and varied vocabulary. We ask that you please try to hear your child read at home regularly and fill in the reading record as this helps us to keep a record of their progress and any difficulties they may have. We ask for a minimum of three home reads a week but children will benefit greatly and progress rapidly if they read for a short time each day.

Please focus on lots of quality questioning and discussion, rather than speeding through a number of books, as this will really help to develop and enhance your child's comprehension skills, a big focus in Year One. All children will have the opportunity to read a variety of texts during shared reading in literacy lessons and will be heard read in guided reading activities on a regular basis. Children will also have the opportunity to read books of their own choice throughout the school week.

Spellings

Children will be given a list of spellings in their homework each week to learn for a test the following week. It would be useful if you could help your child to practise the spellings at home before the test using whichever method your child finds most helpful, for example, the Look Say Cover Write Check method. New spellings will be given out on a Wednesday for a test on the following Tuesday. Gradually, they will also have a set of key words to learn to spell to help them with their writing in class.

Homework

Children are also expected to regularly practise reading, spellings and passport targets. They may want to undertake independent research related to the topic we are studying in class. As mentioned, library visits and use of the Internet would be a very valuable way to help children with their research.

P.E.

P.E. days are on a Monday and Friday. Children should come dressed in full P.E. kits on these days as it saves precious learning time. Suitable clothing such as tracksuits and sweatshirts will be needed as the weather begins to get colder.

General reminders

- Please remember that the school day begins at 8:55am and children should be ready to enter independently through the front gate and walk to the classroom.
- In the interest of your child's safety, children must be collected by an adult at the year One gate at 3:05pm. Please bear with us at home time while we try to get to know the faces of the adults who collect the children, as this can take time!
- For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear jewellery to school other than small stud earrings. We ask that earrings are not worn on P.E days as they must be removed for sport.
- Children are allowed to bring a bottle of still water to school to keep them hydrated throughout the day. Children must take their bottles home each day so that they can be refilled and they remain clean and fresh. It is preferable that children have a separate water bottle that is not part of their packed lunch, as it saves children having to take their fancy water bottles out on the playground at lunch!
- Children receive fruit for morning break but are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack
- Please make sure that children's clothing and lunch boxes are clearly labelled with their name. All their clothing looks the same so they are likely to struggle to recognise it if it gets lost.

Parent/teacher appointments will be held later in the term – dates will follow. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, my door is always open. As I have mentioned previously, your children's happiness and safety are my main priority so please contact me if you have any concerns. The class email is y1.melling@schools.sefton.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Miss L. Wood and Miss J. Scott

Year One Class Teacher and Learning Support