

# Year Group Newsletters Spring 1

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are feeling refreshed and ready for an exciting start to 2025. In this newsletter, you'll find all the details about the engaging topics, activities, and opportunities planned for the term ahead.

**Year 1:** Why are humans not like tigers?

**Year 2:** What are the main differences between my life and life in a small village in Africa?

**Year 3:** How did Britain change between the Stone Age to the Iron Age?

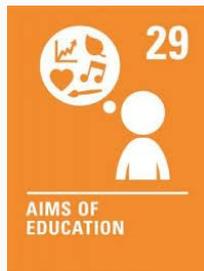
**Year 4:** What happens to the food we eat?

**Year 5:** How can I create a watermill system?

**Year 6:** What is evolution?

## Helpful Reminders:

- Please ensure you label your child's coat, uniform and PE kits.
- Children should bring in a named water bottle with them daily.
- Read with your child for 10-15 minutes daily.
- If you would like to volunteer with us to read with children in school, please email [volunteers@brps.net](mailto:volunteers@brps.net) for more information.



# Year 1

## Diary Dates:

Monday 13th - Friday 17th January:  
Y1 Maths Workshops. Mo 1T, Tu 1J,  
We 1HW, Th 1SJ, Fr 1L

Wednesday 5th February Year  
animal experience visiting school

Tuesday 11th February and  
Wednesday 12th February 2025  
Year 1 celebration assemblies.  
Please see **key information  
section**.

## Key Information:

### Year 1 celebration assemblies

Tuesday 11th February 2025 **1T** and **1J** 9:30-10:10

Wednesday 12th February 2025 **1HW** and **1L** - 9:30-10:10

Wednesday 12th February 2025 **1SJ** - 2:30 - 3:10

## Home Learning:

Our Learning at Home Grids are made available on seesaw. These grids include a variety of optional challenges linked to the topics your child is covering in class and reinforce the knowledge and skills taught.

We encourage families to share the learning that the children have done at home on Seesaw.

Each day, please ensure your child reads at home and changes their book regularly in class. Please comment on your child's reading at home through Seesaw at least once per week. Books bags must be in school on Fridays.

## What are we learning?

This term, in English the children will be reading 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' by Judith Kerr. We will be learning to innovate 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' following a Talk for Writing approach. Children will become increasingly confident using 'because' in sentences and using adjectives.

This half term in maths we will be focusing on recapping addition and subtraction families. We will be understanding what 'greater than' and 'less than' mean and ordering numbers. We will be doing addition and subtraction with numbers to 20 and then numbers to 40. We will be investigating 3D shapes and their properties and measuring and comparing height and length. We will continue to look at place value with 2 digit numbers

In science this half term we will be exploring the different animals groups and similarities and differences between the different animal groups.



# Year 2

## Diary Dates:

**Friday 7th February** - NSPCC Number Day (Dress for Digits!)

**Wednesday 12th February** - Phoenix Day in school

**Friday 14th**- School closes for Half Term

**Monday 24th February** - Spring 2 Term begins

## Key Information:

Year 2 children will be doing PE every **Monday and Thursday**. It is essential children bring in the correct PE kit. **Please ensure all items are labelled.**

## Home Learning:

Our Learning at Home Grids are made available on seesaw. These grids include a variety of optional challenges linked to our topic. Please share your learning on Seesaw!

Each day, please ensure your child reads at home and changes their book regularly in class (on any day). Please comment on your child's reading at home through Seesaw at least once per week.

Mangahigh and TTRS/Numbots apps support the learning we do in class. You can also continue to play the games presented in last half term's maths workshop.

## What are we learning?

We are doing a geography topic this half term, titled, 'What are the main differences between my life and life in a small village in Africa?' We'll be comparing life here to life in Africa, particularly Kenya.

This term, in English the children will be writing traditional tales, inspired by our Africa topic and CBBC's Tinga Tinga tales. We'll then be looking at letter writing, again using our geography learning.

This half term in maths we will continue learning about division and its relationship with multiplication. We will then move onto learning about various measures, including length and mass. Finally we will be exploring pictograms.

In science this half term we will be exploring properties of materials. We'll be identifying and comparing the suitability of various materials as well as seeing how materials can change.



# Year 3

## Diary Dates:

**Monday & Tuesday 28th and 29th January** - Year 3 Stone Age workshop

**Friday 7th February**- Phoenix Day

**Friday 7th February**- NSPCC Number Day

**Friday 14th February**- half term

## Key Information:

### Reading books:

All children have been given reading books. We recommend that you read with your child for at least 15 mins a day. Please leave a short voice note or comments on seesaw when you read at home to say which words your child found tricky or new vocabulary.

### PE Day:

Please remember your PE kit every Monday and Friday! PE kits should remain in school throughout the week.

## Home Learning:

Please see Seesaw for your child's latest Learning at Home Grid, spellings and times tables for the half term. Each day, please ensure your child reads at home. Please comment on your child's reading at home through Seesaw at least once per week. Each week, your child must practise their times tables and spellings. This should be done at least 3 times per week. Our Learning at Home Grids include a variety of optional challenges linked to the topics your child is covering in class and these will help to reinforce the knowledge and skills taught.

## What are we learning?

Our topic this half term is 'How did Britain change between the Stone Age to the Iron Age?' This is a Geography topic. The children will learn about how life changed between these time periods.

In English this half term we will be learning to write a finding tale and an argument using persuasive writing techniques.

The children will be learning when to use a or an, and recapping fronted adverbials and conjunctions to make their writing more exciting.

In Maths the children will be learning to use long multiplication and long division to multiply and divide 2 digit numbers by 4, 8 and 3.

In Science this half term the children will be learning about plants and the functions of their different parts.



# Year 4

## Diary Dates:

**Thursday, 30th January** - 'Multiplication tables check information session'

**Friday 7th February** - NSPCC Number Day

**Monday 3rd-Wed 5th February** - Robin Wood Residential

**Wednesday 12th February** - Phoenix Day

**Thursday 13th February** - Y4 Horrible Science showcase

**Friday 14th February** - School closes for HT

## Key Information:

Classes 4J and 4TJ will begin their swimming programme on Thursday 16th February. Weekly sessions will take place on each Thursday afternoon of the Spring term.

PE takes place on Wednesday afternoon and full kit (labeled) should be kept in school.

## Home Learning:

Please see Seesaw for this half term's spelling list and accompanying challenge sheets.

Please ensure that home reading is completed regularly and recorded using our new digital reading log:  
<https://learningwithparents.com/digitalreadinglog/>

We are very keen to promote Times Tables Rock Stars as a fabulous way to develop Xtables fluency ahead of our 'Multiplication Check' in the summer term. Please speak to your class teacher if you have any issues with lost logins or general access.

Our Home Learning Grid to support all curriculum areas is also shared via Seesaw.

## What are we learning?

Our science-based Learning Challenge question for this half term is: What happens to the food we eat? We will explore the digestive system and how food is broken down and absorbed into the blood. As a finale to our learning, you are invited to join us in school for a Horrible Science-style showcase / exhibition of our work!

In English, we will use the stimulus of 'Leon and the Place Between' to develop our appreciation and knowledge of the fantasy writing genre. We will look at how magical and supernatural elements are used to create this particular type of fiction, and enjoy the scope of creating our own fantastical characters and settings.

We also begin our Shakespeare Festival preparation through the lens of The Tempest 'O Brave New World', and under the guidance North West Drama. Our final performance at the Lowry Theatre, in July will be wonderful finale to our double term project. More details to follow!

Our mathematical learning will be around multiplication and division with remainders. We will also explore different forms of graphs and ways to represent data. For the final part of this half term will learn about equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and ordering.



# Year 5

## Diary Dates:

**Friday 7th February** - NSPCC Number Day

**Wednesday 12th February** - Phoenix Day

**Friday 14th February** - School closes for half term

**Quarry Bank Mill Trip Dates** - 5G 23.1.25 / 5J & 5F 24.1.25 / 5RS 30.1.25 and 5W 31.1.25

**Monday 24th February** - School reopens for Spring 2

## Key Information:

This half term the children will have gymnastics **every Tuesday** and games **every Wednesday**.

It is essential children bring in the correct PE kit for these lessons.

## Home Learning:

Please see Seesaw for your child's Learning at Home Grid and spellings for this half term. Every Friday, there will be a spelling check in class.

Each week, your child will be set an activity on **Mangahigh** which must be completed alongside reading and spellings.

Please ensure that your child is sharing their reading on Seesaw regularly with their teachers. Teachers will be monitoring this and then will choose a **"star reader"** from each class weekly to celebrate their reading efforts.

A special mention to **Griffin** For winning our house point prize last half term!  
Keep it up!

## What are we learning?

In English this half term, we will be writing our own finding story. We will be using Pie Corbett's 'Kidnapped' which is full of excitement, suspense and high quality language. We will also be writing our own newspaper report this term. We will be taking inspiration from the Guardian advert about the three little pigs. During this unit, the children will explore what makes a good news article.

This half term in maths, we will be focusing on multiplication and division and fractions. For both of these units, it's imperative that your child knows their times tables (please do use Times Tables Rockstars as a reminder if needed!)

Our topic title for Spring 1 is **"How can I create a watermill system?"** In design and technology, we will be learning about water wheels. We will be learning about the history of waterwheels, what they were used for and how they work. By the end of the unit, we will use our knowledge of gears to build our own working model!



# Year 6

## Diary Dates:

**Monday 13th January** - Year 6 SATS information evening

**Friday 7th February**- NSPCC Number Day

**Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th February**- Liverpool Museum trip

**Wednesday 12th February**- Phoenix Day

**Friday 14th February**- half term

## Key Information:

This half term, Year 6 have gymnastics in the hall every **Monday**. Our games sessions will continue every **Thursday** morning. Please ensure you child is wearing the appropriate PE kit.

## Home Learning:

Please check your child's Seesaw account for this half-term's **Home Learning Grid** and **Spellings**. Our spelling check takes place on a **Thursday**.

Weekly activities are set on **Mangahigh** and **spag.com** and must be completed by Friday each week.

Children must also upload their **reading** to Seesaw at least once a week.

## What are we learning?

In the Spring term, we will be exploring a new Science learning challenge: '**What is evolution?**' The children will be exploring the work of Charles Darwin and Mary Anning, the impact of genetics and natural selection!

In **English**, Year 6 will be exploring journal entries in the text 'What Mr Darwin saw'. We will then be creating our own biographies.

In **Maths**, we will be looking at coordinates, before focussing on decimals. We will be linking this to our previous work on fraction and percentages.

This half term, our new **Art** topic will focus on sculpture, inspired by birds in a link to our Science as well as some of our school houses!.



# What have we been up to?

## Year 1

Ezra's Grandad came in to teach us all about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah which started on the evening of Wednesday 25th December to 2nd Jan 2025. He told us the story behind this festival of light which celebrates one of the greatest miracles in Jewish history.



## Year 2

Children learning new strategies with their parents in our brilliantly attended Mastering Number parent workshops!

Our trip to Staircase House learning about Samuel Pepys and the Great Fire of London



## Year 3

Children were so proud of the skills they learnt during their Design and Technology unit where they designed and made their own mini greenhouses. Our Residential Trip to Robinwood was a fun-filled and action packed weekend!



# What have we been up to?



## Year 4

Variety is the spice of life, and especially in Y4! We enjoyed a visit to Macclesfield Forest to practice our mapwork skills....and we continued our series of Library sessions, and collaborative fairy-tale project with Early Years. Our ARM robotics project also developed to its conclusion with more inspiration workshops and practical sessions.



## Year 5

Year 5 enjoyed a busy Autumn 2 term! Highlights included creating a hip hop dance routine, baking Viking and Anglo-Saxon bread, and a memorable visit from Olaf the Viking, which brought history to life for our students.



## Year 6

Year 6 had a very busy end to the Autumn 2 half term, including a trip to the Towers to present their DT products, selling their enterprise goods at our Winter Fair in the hall and a trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelters!



# Time To Celebrate

Our Year 1 children enjoyed a wonderful music workshop and discovered more about the cello!



Our Junior Choir performed at the Christie Hospital as part of our Christmas music programme.