



Years 1 & 2 – Elm, Chestnut, Larch



Welcome back to a new school year! We hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. We are looking forward to welcoming your children back to school and we have a range of fun and engaging activities planned to settle them back into the school routine.

This year, Elm will be taught by Mrs Gulamhussein & Mrs Little, Chestnut will be taught by Miss Lopez and Larch will be taught by Mrs Rowlinson. Mrs Rowlinson will also be leading Year 1.2. The teachers will be supported by Miss Haines, Miss Brown, Miss Merchant, Miss Bansil-Shah and Miss Blair. We are also very pleased to welcome Mrs Dewji into our Key Stage 1 team as she is beginning her teacher training.

We have lots of exciting activities planned for the term with our Harvest celebration and of course the highlight of the Autumn calendar; our KS1 Christmas production in December.

A few reminders for this term:

Your child must have their PE kit on the appropriate days. If the children bring their kit on Monday and take the kit home on Friday for washing, this will ensure that PE kits are always available if lesson days change. All PE kits should be **clearly labelled**.

Please ensure that in addition to any packed lunch drinks, your child brings a named, reusable plastic bottle of **water** to school every day. We continue to provide healthy snacks for morning break times.

Each phase has a specific Reading Record with National Curriculum key words for phonics and reading along with many other spelling tools and checklists that you will find very useful. Please ensure that home reading folders come to school **every day**. As well as changing books when required, they also read in class. Please record in the reading record **every time** your child reads so that their book can be changed.

HOME LEARNING

The below outlines the weekly home learning activities for you to complete with your child.

- Children will take three reading books home pitched at their level. Please read these regularly and at least three times per week.
- Children will take one library book home to share with an adult - this book may need to be read to them. Children will receive red words to practice and learn. Once the children can read the word, they can practice spelling the word.
- Maths activities and games may be sent home via parentmail on a Thursday. Alternatively, printed activity sheets may be sent home in reading folders. Activities will vary between online games and printed sheets to support their current learning.
- Occasionally the children will receive activities or challenges linked to their topic work. These will be shared via parentmail.

All children in Year 1 and 2 will practice spelling in school daily. These will not be sent home or tested as we will assess throughout the week.

In these key areas, we will be learning:

English:

Reading: Speaking & Listening, Word Reading & Comprehension through Read Write Inc.



Writing: Transcription, Handwriting & Composition, Spelling, Vocabulary, Grammar & Punctuation. The above will be covered through daily English lessons using the Hertfordshire Essentials Writing Planning.

Genres covered include poetry, fiction and non-fiction, which will allow the children to write to 'entertain the reader' or 'inform the reader'.

Mathematics:

The children will cover a variety of topics throughout this term: Number & Place Value, Addition & Subtraction, Money, Measurement, Multiplication & Division, Fractions, Measurement and Geometry. The above will be delivered using the Hertfordshire Essentials Mathematics Planning.



Science: We will be identifying and comparing every day materials by sorting and grouping. We will also be exploring uses of everyday materials by planning and completing an investigation.

What will we be learning about across the curriculum?

Computing: We will be developing our understanding of technology around us to help us to use a range of digital devices. We will also be working on our keyboard skills.

History: We will be developing our understanding of chronology by looking at past and present. We will begin to explore significant people looking at Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole. We will explore why people did things and what happened as a result – cause and consequence.

Geography: Out and about in our local area – we will be developing our map skills by using a compass, following maps, drawing maps and creating and using symbols.

RE: When exploring personal experiences, Christianity, Judaism and Islam, we will be identify an range of religious symbols, discussing how this helps people to feel like they 'belong'.

Art & Design: We will be using the work of Vincent Van Gough to develop our observational skills. We will also be developing our sketching skills, focusing on shading, as well as using a range of different media.

Design & Technology: We will be designing, making and evaluating our own emergency vehicles. We will use a range of materials to cut, shape, assemble and join each component.

Music: Through the unit 'Hands, feet, heart', we will be using our listening skills to learn about pitch. Ho Ho Ho is a festive unit that helps us to understand dynamics – loud and quiet.

PE: We will be developing our agility, balance and co-ordination skills by performing simple patterns of movement, as well as performing dances.

PSHE: Be me in my world – we will be learning about rights and responsibilities in our world. We will listen and share our ideas and opinions when creating a class charter. Celebrating difference – we will be comparing how we are all similar and different.

Visits & Visitors

This term we plan to take the children on a trip in our local area, to support their learning in Geography. A letter will be sent home later this term with full details and a chance for parents to volunteer to attend.