

Year 1 Growing Together Newsletter

Term 1 • 2026 to 2027



Hello Year 1 families!

The new Year 1 team are incredibly proud of how well the new Year 1s have settled. Badgers, Foxes and Moles are already becoming happy little class communities, with the children learning their routines and growing in confidence and independence each day.

They are making the most of everything Year 1 has to offer, including regular visits to the farm and lots of imaginative play and exploration in our enchanted garden area. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm, curiosity and excitement as they discover their new classrooms and outdoor spaces.

Our project this term is **Growing Together**. The children will explore how plants and trees grow and change, how Pashley has changed over time and what it means to belong to a community. Through their learning, they will think about how we care for living things, look after our environment and work together as friends and classmates.

We have a lovely term ahead and cannot wait to share the children's learning and achievements with you as we go through the term. A reminder that we use Dojo to communicate in Year 1. Tapestry is not used anymore.

Helping your child at home

- Read together every day and record reading in the reading diary. Re-reading familiar books helps children become more fluent and confident. At least 3 x reading a week will award your child 5 dojo points.
- Practise phonics sounds and blending little and often. Ask your child to spot sounds in signs, labels and books.
- Count everyday objects to 10 and beyond. Ask questions such as 'How many altogether?', 'What is one more?' and 'What is one less?'
- Notice plants and seasonal changes when you are outside, and talk about the communities your family belongs to.
- Discuss the days of the week and the months of the year, have a calendar at home for your child to change daily so they learn about the days, months and seasons.

CURRICULUM FOCUS: Growing Together

Driving Question for Term 1

How do living things grow and change?

How can people grow together as a community?

Our learning this term

Area	What the children will learn
Science	We will identify common plants and trees, name the main parts of a tree and explore bulbs and seasonal change. Our Downs visit will give the children a chance to observe plants in their natural environment.
History	The children will become history detectives. They will use photographs, timelines and eyewitness accounts to find out how Pashley has changed since it opened in 1960.
Maths	We will build secure understanding of numbers to 10, including counting, reading, writing, comparing and finding one more or one less. We will also explore 2D shapes, addition within 10 and the language of time.
Reading and phonics	Children will continue daily phonics and regular reading. We will practise blending, recognising sounds quickly and talking about what we have read.
Religious education	We will explore what it means to belong to a community and how people show belonging within faith communities. Children will learn about Christian baptism and Jewish and Christian weddings.
Music	Through Rhyming in Time, the children will develop pulse, rhythm, movement and vocal skills before creating and performing their own rhythmic patterns.
Computing	We will identify technology around us, learn the main parts of a computer, use a mouse and keyboard and agree rules for using technology responsibly.
Physical education	Our sending and receiving unit develops rolling, receiving, throwing and catching before children apply these skills in small games.
Life skills	We will focus on caring friendships, resolving disagreements, family and the people who care for us, personal space and trusted adults. We will also teach the PANTS rule in an age-appropriate way.

Friday afternoons in the allotments

A huge thank you to our two allotment helpers. They are helping on Friday afternoons so that more children can spend time growing, exploring and caring for the allotments. If you could join them and help staff take small groups of children over, either regularly or occasionally, please message your child's class teacher on ClassDojo.

Diary dates Term 1 and 2

Date	Event
23 September • 7pm	First Friends of Pashley meeting
1 October	Year 1 Downs trip. Parent helpers are needed; please message your child's class teacher on ClassDojo if you can help.
Tuesday 13 th October	Ladybirds closed- Twilight- staff training
14 October • 9am	Reading and phonics drop-in in class
22 October	Friends of Pashley quiz
2 November	INSET day. School is closed to children.
3 November	First day of Term 2
3 and 5 November	Parents' evenings
7 December • 2.15pm	Foxes Class Christmas parent assembly
8 December • 2.15pm	Badgers Class Christmas parent assembly
10 December • 2.15pm	Moles Class Christmas parent assembly

Date	Event
12 December • 11am to 2pm	Pashley Christmas Fair
16 December	Stir the Pudding and Christmas dinner
18 December	Last day of Term 2



Meet Eric, our school dog!

Mrs Lewis's dog, Eric, will be joining us in school every Tuesday this year. As a special reward, your child may have the opportunity to help look after him, take him for a supervised walk or enjoy a quiet cuddle with him. Eric loves spending time with the children, and we know he will quickly become a much-loved member of our Year 1 community!

A few useful reminders

Reading books Please send reading books and diaries into school each day in your child's bookbag.

PE on Fridays Please make sure PE kit is worn on Fridays.

Contact ClassDojo is the quickest way to share routine messages with your child's class teacher.

Thank you for all your support. We are really looking forward to growing together this year.