

Year 1 welcome letter and curriculum overview for autumn 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Year 1! I’m really looking forward to getting to know you and your children and working together to make Year 1 a real success.

I hope you find the following information useful but please contact me if you have any queries. My email is

[year1@cloverhill.school](mailto:year1@cloverhill.school)

Emails will be answered during school non teaching hours.

**Please note that Seesaw is only used in Reception. Throughout the rest of school we communicate regularly with you through Marvellous me. A log in sheet for this is attached. Please get set up as soon as possible so that you don’t miss important communications.**

Initially Year 1 will reflect the good practice of the Early Years Curriculum, we want to make sure that the children are comfortable and happy to come to school in an environment and routine that is familiar to them. Activities will be based around the Early Years areas of learning and we will support the children to attain their early learning goals if they have not already done so before moving them on to the Key Stage 1 curriculum.

In the autumn term our work is based around an ‘All about me’ topic.

Literacy

Phonics

There will be a big focus on phonics again this year taught through our phonics scheme, Phonics Shed. Children will learn sounds on a weekly basis and these will be sent home to be reinforced as part of the children’s home learning each week. In the first couple of weeks we will be going over the sounds taught at the end of Reception. The children’s home reading books will be matched to the phonics they know.

Reading

One reading book will be sent home each week and, as you have been doing in Reception, the book should be read 3 times. The first read is for decoding, sounding out and blending words, the second read is to develop fluency and the third read is to focus on comprehension. **Home Reading/phonics books should come into school on Tuesdays**, the reading book will be changed if it has been read 3 times and a new book will be sent home on a Wednesday.

Writing

We will go over basic skills of correct pencil grip and letter formation. The children will be encouraged to use their phonic and key word knowledge to write simple sentences starting with a capital letter and ending with a full stop.

Context for learning

The children’s literacy work will be based around key texts. Examples of these are stories in familiar settings such as ‘Simon’s Sock’, rhyming stories such as ‘Hairy Maclary’, non fiction books, poetry, fairy tales and ‘The Jolly Postman’ as a basis for letter writing.

Maths

In Maths we will be covering place value, addition, subtraction and shape this term There will be a focus on practical work as well as beginning to record some maths.

Please visit our Year 1 website page where you will find the following information for English and maths which will help you to support your child throughout their time in Year 1.

* Supporting your child with reading in Year 1
* Recommended reading books for year 1
* Year 1 statutory spellings
* KS1 handwriting
* Clover Hill calculation policy – please read the Year 1 section.

Science

We will cover work on our body and senses, everyday materials and plants, particularly deciduous and evergreen trees in relation to seasonal changes in autumn.

History

In history we will be finding out about homes in the past, Guy Fawkes and castles.

Geography

Our geography work is based around where we live – our local area as well the UK as a whole.

Art

We will be looking at the work of the sculptor Barbara Hepworth and creating our own art using clay. We will be having fun creating art around the themes of fireworks, bonfire night and of course Christmas.

Computing

The children will be learning the basic skills of logging into computers and using a mouse and key board. We will be covering the topic of online safety and using computer programmes to enhance skills and knowledge in other subjects such as maths, English and science.

RE

In Year 1 our focus is on Christianity. The children will learn what the Bible is, know that it is divided into the old and new testament and discuss Old Testament stories. We will learn about advent and the birth of Jesus.

Music

Our whole school music scheme is called ‘Charanga’ and this term in Year 1 we will be listening to and learning about hip hop and reggae songs for children. The children will be learning musical terms and creating their own music.

DT

In DT we will be exploring structures to make a mini house for play people and learning about different ways to join materials to make a calendar.

PSHE / Relationships Education

Personal, Social and Health Education has always been really important at Clover Hill and Relationships and Health Education is a statutory part of this. In Year 1 this term we will be thinking about Healthy bodies and minds and Healthy and happy friendships.

PE

**The children’s PE days will be Wednesdays and Fridays and will start in week 2 ie the week beginning 11th September**. Children need to come to school dressed in their PE uniform on those days (white t-shirt, black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms and Clover Hill hoodie). **Please ensure the children wear trainers with Velcro fastenings not laces please and make sure all items are named.**

Homework

Home activities will consist of reading 3 times a week, completing maths tasks online on Doodle Maths and completing a phonics / spelling task which is in the back of the home learning book. **All homework is set on a Friday and should be completed and sent to school the following Tuesday**. Reading books will be changed on a Tuesday. Phonics / spelling homework will be given on a Friday. **Children will need to have their pink home learning book in their book bag every day**

We will send home all of your child’s logins for educational programmes we use in school. **Please keep this list safe to enable you to access these sites to practise skills in literacy and maths. Please don’t stick this list into the home learning book as this book will not always be at home.**

Library books

**The children’s library day will be a Thursday**. Your child will bring a library book home and this needs to be returned the following Thursday. Please note that a new library book will only be given when the previous one is returned. The library book is in addition to and separate from your child’s home reading book. The library book is for you to share together for enjoyment, we don’t expect the children to read this book themselves.

School Meals

The school meals menu will be sent home and will also be on the school website. Please have a look at this at home and help your child decide what they would like to have each day. I will remind the children what they can choose from that day.

Items brought in from home

**The children will only need to bring a prefilled, named water bottle and their book bag which should also be named and have a keyring or something similar attached so that the children can identify their bag quickly.**

Careers education

This year we are giving careers education a high profile and we would like to invite a parent in to talk to the children about their job each half term. If you would be willing to do this please complete and return the slip below.

Home School agreement

Attached to this letter you will find a whole school agreement. Please read this and sign and return the slip in your child’s book bag.

Thank you for your support.

Regards

Mrs Scrafton (Teacher) and Mrs Potts (Teaching Assistant)

Careers Education

My child’s name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My job is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I would be able to come to school in the following half terms, please tick

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| --- | --- |
| Autumn 1 – September to October half term |  |
| Autumn 2- November to Christmas |  |
| Spring 1 – January to February half term |  |
| Spring 2 – End of February to Easter |  |
| Summer 1 - April / May |  |
| Summer 2 - June / July |  |