



Fleet Primary School

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Year 1 Topic Letter – Autumn Term 2026

Toy Tales



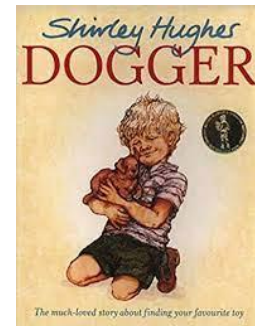
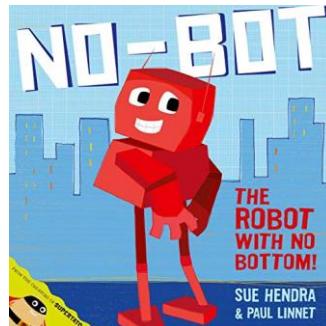
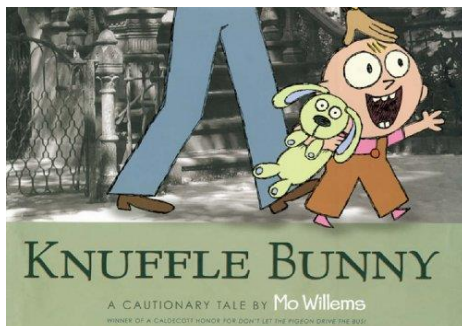
Welcome back to school and to Year 1!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. It has been lovely getting to know the new Year Ones, and I have been so impressed with how quickly the children have settled into their new classroom and routines.

This term, Keren, Lakshmi, Fatima and Maylyn will be in class supporting the children's learning. Tammy will cover my Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time on Wednesday mornings and will focus on Geography, History and RE. We also have Joanne and Shami supporting reading and phonics throughout the week.

We aim to make the transition to Key Stage 1 as smooth as possible by continuing with an Integrated Learning approach, similar to Reception. This means the children will still have opportunities to learn through play throughout the day, alongside directed teaching and learning. A typical day includes writing, phonics, guided reading, maths and a topic-based activity, as well as assemblies, PE, singing and music sessions throughout the week.

This term our topic is **Toy Tales**.



We will be exploring a range of stories based around toys. To begin, the children will be sharing and talking about their own favourite toys.

Writing

In writing, we will build on the skills developed in Reception, encouraging and supporting the children to write with growing independence. Writing will be linked to our topic and other high-quality texts. Activities will include writing speech bubbles, poems, fact files, instructions, recounts, and narratives.

The children will be encouraged to say aloud what they are going to write, composing a sentence orally before putting it on paper. They will also begin sequencing sentences to build longer pieces of writing. Re-reading their work is a key focus in Year 1, alongside remembering basic punctuation and spellings.

In addition, the children will regularly engage in diary writing to record personal experiences, and they will take part in separate handwriting sessions each week.

Science

In Science, we will learn about materials, using toys as a motivator for this. The children will learn to identify and name different materials, as well as describing simple physical properties. They will compare and group different materials.

Geography

Our main Geography focus will be countries, capital cities and flags of the United Kingdom, as well as national seasonal weather patterns. As the children learn more, they will have to be detectives to find missing toys around the UK.

History

In History, we will look at popular toys throughout history, comparing toys of today to toys of the past. We will use our science knowledge of materials to describe changes in toys and give reasons why these changes have happened. Children will also interview family members to find out what toys they played with as a child.

Art and Design

For Art and Design, we will create cityscapes, including famous London landmarks. A trip to Parliament Hill will help us with this. Our key areas of learning will include drawing, painting and printmaking.

Design Technology

For Design Technology, we will focus on free standing structures. The children will use recycled materials to build a playground for some of our classroom toys. We will also make our own marble maze games.

Maths

This term we will look at place value within 10 and 20, addition and subtraction, and shapes for geometry. We will focus on: mathematical language, where children will be encouraged to explain their maths thinking, understanding objects and pictures before moving on to symbols, signs, and problem solving.

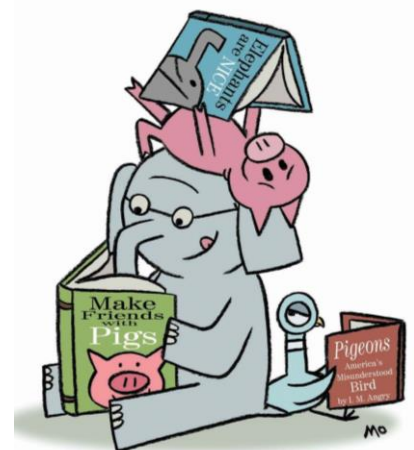
Reading

We read daily, using a combination of whole-class, shared, guided, and individual reading. We will continue with the same timetable as in Reception: the children will read in a small group with an adult three times each week.

Each session has a different focus:

- **Session 1:** decoding the text
- **Session 2:** reading with fluency, expression, and intonation
- **Session 3:** comprehension of the text

After these three sessions, your child will bring the book home to share with you. By this stage, they will already know it well, and re-reading helps to build both fluency and confidence. Alongside their guided reading book, your child will also bring home two 'real' books from our book corner to enjoy. Please make sure your child has their book bag in



school every day. Reading regularly — both at school and at home — is one of the best ways you can support your child's learning. Please read with them daily and use the reading log to record any comments or questions.

A gentle reminder: guided reading books cost £5.75 each. If a book is lost, it affects the number available for the next group. We appreciate your support in looking after them carefully.

Phonics

Phonics will be taught in class on a daily basis. We will carry on with the same phonics programme taught in Reception so the children will be very familiar with the language and skills taught. This systematic programme is very snappy with the children learning 4 sounds a week. We then have a day to consolidate learning.

P.E.

please can children wear comfortable clothing and trainers on PE days (children in Key Stage 1 do not need a separate PE kit).

- Mondays: PE with Coach Keeley
- Thursdays: Class PE

House Keeping



Water Bottles

We ask you to provide your child with a water bottle with their name written on it, which they should bring to school every day full with water for the day ahead. If needed, the children can refill their bottles during breaks.



Topic Snapshot

The Topic Snapshot attached to this letter is an introduction to the key learning throughout the term. Please read and discuss this with your child and help them to become familiar with the vocabulary.

Important Dates

Y1 Class Meeting – Wednesday 16th September at 3.45pm
Y1 Toy Day – Friday 18th September – Children can bring in a toy from home.
Hampstead Heath Autumn Walk – Tuesday 22nd September – 9.15-10.30
KS1 Phonics Open Morning 9-10 – Tuesday 6th October
Trip to Wac Arts - Thursday 8th October
Halloween Disco (After School) – Friday 23rd October
KS1 Maths Open Morning 9-10 – Tuesday 17th November
Parent Meetings – 24th 25th and 26th November
Infant Show – Friday 4th December
Infant Party – Tuesday 15th December
Last day of term (2pm finish) – Friday 18th December

I'm looking forward to the term ahead.

Thank you for your support thus far and please do ask if you have any questions.

Supporting Your Child at Home

Literacy

- Read every night to and/or with your child.
- Encourage writing wherever possible. A special writing book and pens can help with motivation as can writing for real-life purposes (eg: shopping lists, postcards, lists etc.) Whilst still keeping it fun, please help your child to write in clear sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.



- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks>
- www.phonicsplay.co.uk
- www.phonicsbloom.com
- www.lovelybooks.co.uk
- <https://teachhandwriting.co.uk/parents.html>
- <https://www.busythings.co.uk>

Maths

- Help your child to learn all Number Bonds to 10. $5+5=10$, $8+2=10$ etc
- Help your child to tell the time by knowing o'clock and half past and to relate this to your daily routines.
- Help your child to add small totals of money and calculate change.
- Measure ingredients when cooking or baking.
- <https://play.numbots.com>



- www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks
- <https://toytheater.com/category/teacher-tools/>
- https://mathsathome.lgfl.org.uk/y1_subject.html
- www.ictgames.co.uk
- www.primarygames.com
- www.topmarks.co.uk
- <https://www.busythings.co.uk>