



Weaverham Forest Primary School and Nursery

Year 1 Newsletter

Autumn 2 2026

We move into the second half of the term at **full speed**, building on a fantastic start. The children have embraced the full curriculum with confidence and enthusiasm, taking new challenges in their stride. We have flown through phonics, mastering new sounds and applying them in our reading and writing; developed our comprehension, decoding and fluency through daily group reading; and taken **ownership** of our learning by understanding our next steps and celebrating our achievements. It has been wonderful to see the children thrive, showing a real love of learning and an **eagerness to challenge themselves** as they continue their Year 1 journey.

English

In English this half term, Year 1 have continued to enjoy the **Ready Steady Write** approach and the **high-quality texts** we have explored together. The children have developed growing confidence and independence when creating their own sentences, applying the vocabulary and writing skills they have learned. We will begin next half term by completing our friendship instruction writing linked to **King Lion** before moving on to work inspired by **Rapunzel**. It has been wonderful to see vocabulary develop across the class, with children becoming increasingly confident in choosing and using **ambitious words** to improve their writing.

Maths

In Maths, the children have thoroughly enjoyed the **practical** introductions to each new concept and have shown **growing confidence** when exploring mathematical ideas. Using a range of resources and equipment has helped to bring learning to life and develop their understanding. Next half term, we will continue to build on this success as we explore new concepts and equipment, focusing on mastering the **foundational skills** of addition and subtraction within 10. We will finish the term by investigating the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, developing our vocabulary and confidence in describing and comparing shapes.



Science

In Science, we will be exploring different **materials** and the properties that make them suitable for particular purposes. The children will develop their skills in identifying and sorting materials, grouping objects according to their properties and making simple predictions. Through **investigations**, they will begin to think like scientists by using their observations to answer questions and considering whether **tests are fair**. We will also continue to observe the seasons over time, noticing changes as we move through the year. We are looking forward to seeing their **curiosity** grow as they explore the world around them and develop confidence in using **scientific vocabulary**.

Foundation Subjects:

In **History**, we will explore the question, '**How am I making history?**' The children will use photographs, memories and timelines to learn about the past within **living memory** and develop their understanding of before and after. We will **compare** childhood today with the past and **reflect** on the memories and milestones that make each of us part of history.

In **Design and Technology**, we will be exploring **stable structures** and investigating what makes buildings and models strong and secure. The children will design and build their own structures, developing skills such as **sketching** ideas, **cutting** accurately and **joining** materials effectively. We will also **evaluate** our finished products, considering what worked well and how they could be improved.

In **PSHE**, we will explore how to help ourselves and others **feel happy and safe**. The children will identify what makes them and others **special**, whilst learning how friends, family and classmates can support one another. We will also **discuss** ways to build **positive relationships** and show kindness, care and respect towards others.

In **Computing** we will learn how to use computers safely and confidently. Children will identify different parts of a computer, practise **logging in** and **out**, and use simple programs to save their own work. We will also explore how computers and other devices connect to **form the internet** and help us communicate and share information.

In **RE**, we will explore why **Christmas** is celebrated by Christians. The children will learn about the events surrounding the birth of **Jesus**, the special gifts brought by the Wise Men and why Christians believe Jesus was a gift from God. We will also reflect on how the **Christmas story** is celebrated today, including through **our school Nativity**.

PE will continue to take place on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, and children should come to school wearing their PE kit. This half term, the children will develop their **balance**, **control** and **coordination** through **gymnastics**, learning to perform and link movements with increasing confidence and control.

As a reminder, I will be available on the playground at pick up for a chat; or if you would prefer contact me by email:

year1teach@weaverhamforest.cheshire.sch.uk