



The Oakridge Schools Federation  
Oakridge Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 5RR  
Executive Headteacher: Diane Charman  
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[www.oakridgeschoolsfederation.co.uk](http://www.oakridgeschoolsfederation.co.uk)

## September 2023

Welcome to year 1. We hope your child has enjoyed the first week back at school. They are settling well and getting used to their new classrooms and routines. If your child is feeling anxious or worried about anything please let us know and encourage your child to talk to us.

Below is some information about what we will be covering in school this half term, as well as some ideas for how you can support them at home. Remember, if you wish to speak to your child's teacher about anything you can make an appointment through the office or send an email to your class teacher directly.

Our email addresses are:

Mr Tagarsi: [b.tagarsi@oakridge-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:b.tagarsi@oakridge-inf.hants.sch.uk)

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### **Maths**

Our first maths topic is all about number and place value which will run up to half term. We then will be learning about addition and subtraction. We will be using concrete, pictorial and abstract representations throughout this topic to support our learning. We will also be developing our counting skills, counting to 20 initially, forwards and backwards. Once the children are confident we will move onto higher numbers.

### **Helping at home**

Please support your child in becoming fluent with their numbers by counting forwards and backwards verbally between 1 and 20. Please ask your child to practise writing their numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and ensure they are writing these the correct way round.

### **English - reading**

This year, we will continue with the 'Little Wandle' phonics programme. Pupils will continue to have daily phonics sessions as well as weekly guided reading sessions. As part of reading in school, pupils will also explore a variety of texts through English lessons and develop their love of reading by listening to stories read to them throughout the school day.

### **Helping at home**

Each week your child will be allocated an e-book via the Collins website and will also bring a copy of the same book home with them. The login will be added to the front of your child's reading diary. Please listen to your child read and help them to sound out words that they are unsure of. When you are listening to your child, ask them questions about what they have read so far, what they have seen and what they think is going to happen next.





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**It is important to record in their reading diaries when you have read with them at home (5 times a week). Please ensure that your child brings their reading diary in every Monday as they are checked by the class teachers.**

The children will continue to take home a reading for pleasure book at least once a week. This book is meant for sharing with an adult and is an opportunity to foster the love of a rich variety of texts and an enthusiasm for sharing books.

### **English – writing**

We will be using lots of exciting books this term as drivers for our English sessions. Your child will work independently and within a group, taking part in lots practical learning opportunities to enhance their experience and enjoyment of the texts. These will include role-play, games and storytelling using actions. Our first English learning journey is based around the story 'The Three Little Pigs'. Pupils will focus on retelling and sequencing the story, leaving spaces between words, forming capital letters and composing a sentence orally before writing it down. Other units this term will be based around the texts: Coming to England, Beegu and Mr Tiger Goes Wild. At the end of the term we will also complete a unit on performance poetry.

### **Helping at home**

In order to help the children write with greater independence it would be great if you could encourage them to write at home. This could be shopping lists, cards, sentences about their favourite book etc. It would also be really helpful if you could look at reading and spelling the Year 1 common exception words below to support the work we are doing in class.

Each week we will also be sending home spellings sheets which contain the focus graphemes from our phonics lessons that week, along with some words containing these and some tricky words. We would appreciate you taking the time to practice reading and spelling these words with your child as this will support their phonics and writing.

### **PE and Outdoor Learning**

Each week pupils will have a PE lesson and an Outdoor Learning session (this replaces Forest School from year R) with Coach Jordan, Coach James and Coach Freyja. Please ensure your child comes into school with their correct PE kit (White t shirt, black shorts, jogging bottoms, trainers and plimsolls). For Outdoor Learning, children need to have long trousers, a rain jacket/waterproof trousers/all-in-one and appropriate footwear (this can be trainers as they will be climbing but they will be getting wet/muddy). Unfortunately, if they don't have the basics then they won't be able to climb on the equipment and will have to watch. They will be able to do some of the team building games but not too much running/climbing. Please ensure all clothing is labelled.

In Autumn 1, PE will usually be on a **Thursday** but can be subject to change so PE kits should be in school all week and outdoor learning will usually be on a **Tuesday**.





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### **History – Childhood**

Our first History topic is all about Childhood. Pupils will develop their vocabulary by learning words and phrases to describe the passage of time. They will begin the topic by discussing their own childhoods, creating their own timelines and family trees. Pupils will then learn about childhood in the 1950s through the use of artefacts, online resources and photographs. They will also learn about Queen Elizabeth's Coronation, a significant event that occurred in the 1950s. Pupils will be given many opportunities to compare and contrast childhood in the 1950s with the present day and explore how childhood has changed over time.

### **Science- Everyday Materials**

Our first science topic is all about everyday materials. Pupils will observe and identify different objects and identify what material they are made off. They will explore natural and man-made materials and identify how these materials are different. Pupils will also learn about the properties of different materials. They will develop their scientific skills by asking questions, making comparisons, sorting and grouping objects according to their material or their material properties. Pupils will end the topic by carrying out their own investigation to determine which materials would be best to make bunting.

### **Art – Mix it**

In our first Art topic pupils will learn about the colour and colour mixing. They will learn to identify the primary colours and mix them to make secondary colours. They will become familiar with the colour wheel.

### **Geography – Our Wonderful World**

In our first Geography topic pupils will learn about human and physical features, the names of continents and oceans, learn about hot and cold places and learn about the capital cities and countries of the UK. They will develop their geographical vocabulary and become familiar with words such as Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, as well as positional language (e.g. next to, behind) and compass directions (North, East, South and West). They will develop their geographical skills by exploring maps, globes and aerial photographs. Pupils will also carry out simple fieldwork to learn about the human and physical features in their local area and school.

### **Health and Well-being – Being me in the World**

Our first topic is called 'being me in the world'. Pupils will become more familiar with the Jigsaw Charter. They will reflect on what makes them feel safe within the classroom and how they know they belong. They will also reflect on their rights and responsibilities within the classroom as well as reflect on the choices they make and understand the consequences. Pupils will discuss their emotions, in particular, thinking about how it feels to be proud of an achievement and the range of emotions you may feel when facing consequences.





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### **RE – Celebration**

Our first topic is all about celebration. Pupils will begin by making links to their own experiences of having a celebration such as a birthday. They will explore how celebrations make them feel and how you might prepare for a celebration e.g. by sending cards or having a special meal. Finally pupils will learn about how Christians celebrate the festival of Harvest.

### **Computing**

In our first topic pupils will learn to log in and log off on a computer. They will become more familiar with using a keyboard and develop control when using a touchpad.

### **Music**

In our first music topic pupils will focus on singing. They will listen to a range of songs and discuss whether they like the song, what they can hear (instruments) and the style of the song. They will then learn to sing the song 'Hey You!' a hip hop song for children. In this unit pupils will become more familiar with pulse and rhythm.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us via our emails or the office and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to working alongside you and your children throughout the year.

Year One Team

