



Widmer End Community Combined School and Pre-School

Widmer End Community Combined School
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Tuesday 7th January

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year. I hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday and got lots of rest. In this newsletter, I have included information about our new PE days, home learning expectations and reminders about general classroom routines.

Please see our Spring Term curriculum map to find out about the topics and aspects of learning we will be covering in the first term. A copy of this will be available on the school website.

Year 1 Spring Term Curriculum map



English (Writing)

Beegu - character description, hot seating, caption writing, persuasive writing
The Train Journey - rhyming poems
Handa's surprise - sequencing, character description, alternate story endings
Cars and Trucks and things that go - recount writing

Computing (iLearn2)

ESafety
Text and Images
Comic Creation

PE (GetSet4PE)

Dance
Net and Wall
Gymnastics
Sending and Receiving

Maths (PowerMaths)

Numbers to 20
Addition and Subtraction with 20
Numbers to 50
Introducing length and height
Introducing mass and capacity

PSHE (Jigsaw)

Dreams and Goals
Healthy Me

RE

Hinduism - Friendship
Christianity - Easter and Surprises

Science

Amazing Animals

Humanities

Travel and Transport

Art / DT (Kapow)

Painting and Mixed Media
Textiles - Puppets

Music (Get Set 4 Music)

Carnival of Animals
Dinosaurs

In Year 1 this term we will read:
The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton
and There's a Dragon in my Dinner by Tom Nicoll

Reading Record

These books will be used to record daily home learning tasks, in particular the reading that your child does at home. The Home Learning Book will be checked **every week on a Monday**. Any communications should be sent via the office with a subject FAO Miss Davis.

Reading

Year 1 children are required to read **at least 3 times a week for 10-15 minutes**, to an adult, as part of their home learning, allowing time for discussion, questions and answers. Please record the date and the time spent reading in their Reading Record. We will check that this has been completed **each Monday**.



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Additional Home Learning

A phonics or spelling focussed task will be set on Edshed on a Monday every week with the expectation that this is completed by the following Monday.

An additional Maths or English Task will be set in their Home Learning Books (purple books) every week on a Tuesday expected to be handed in on the following Monday.

A **minimum of 20 minutes** should be spent on these additional tasks.

If your child's reading, EdShed and Maths or English task are not completed then your child will be attending Study Squad on a Thursday lunchtime to complete the work.

Library

Year 1 will visit the library every **Thursday** to have their library books changed. If your child does not bring their library book in on this day then they are unable to take home a new library book.

Cracking Number Facts

This term we will be starting Cracking Number Facts. Cracking Number Facts is a tool to help children in Key Stage 1 master their number facts and number bonds to 10 and 20 and begin to learn their times tables.

Why is learning number facts important?

- An important foundation for understanding how numbers work.
- Helps to secure knowledge of the place value of 2-digit numbers.
- Number bonds help children see the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction.
- Once number bonds are secure, they can be applied to larger 2 and 3-digit numbers i.e. if children know that $6 + 4 = 10$, they will be able to see that $60 + 40 = 100$.
- Good basis for number work in Key Stage 2.

How does Cracking Number Facts work?

- Most children in Key Stage 1 sit a written Cracking Number Facts test each week.
- Children have 2 minutes to answer all the questions on the test.
- Children must answer **ALL** the questions correctly, within the allocated time, to move to the next level.
- The tests will become increasingly difficult, with more questions as children move through the levels, but 2 minutes will remain the time limit.
- When children pass a level they will receive a certificate.
- Children who achieve the dizzy heights of Level 10 will join the "Grand Order of Mathematicians" and will then be able to move on to the extension levels.



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PE days

On the days that your child has PE, they will need to come to school wearing their kit for the whole day. Children will need to come to school in their PE kit on **Monday and Tuesday**

PE kit consists of:

- Black shorts, skort, jogging bottoms or leggings (with or without school logo*)
- White T-shirt (with or without school logo*)
- Royal Blue PE Hoodie (with W.E. logo*)
- Sports socks
- Black or white trainers

**Children can continue to wear their existing PE kit if it still fits. The change to the new PE kit will be a gradual transition over the next 2 years, so please just replace the kit as you need to.*

Morning break

A snack of fruit/vegetable is provided every day for your child. If preferred you can provide your child with their own fruit/vegetable snack to have at breaktime (in a labelled box or bag).

General

- Please keep us up to date with any medical issues / needs your child may have.
- Shoulder length and longer hair must be tied up. Hair-bands must be blue or white.
- Please name all your child's clothes, it helps us to return them promptly to the right owner!
- A reminder that children are not allowed to bring toys/personal items into school as this can cause distraction and upset.
- School starts at the new **earlier time of 8:45am** with the bell ringing at **8:43am** and finishes at **3:15pm**
- Please inform the school office by **9.30 am** if your child is not going to be in school that day.
- Please ensure that your child is provided with a packed lunch or that you have ordered their lunch via The School Lunch Company's website - <https://kidslunch.co.uk/school-select/>
- Our trip this term is to **Milestones Museum on Friday 14th March 2025**. If you are able to volunteer to accompany us on this trip please email the office with the subject FAO Miss Davis as soon as possible.

Please ensure that your child's pencil case has the following items in ready for the new term:

Simple, flat, clear pencil case

2 x HB pencils

Ruler (30cm)

Rubber

Small pair of scissors (kid-safe)

Glue stick- one which dries clear please

Set of colouring pencils

A whiteboard pen (dry wipe - black preferred) and whiteboard rubber (piece of cloth or small sponge)

Old shirt/ painting apron- named

A named water bottle



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All items will need to be replenished on an 'as and when needed' basis. We have some equipment for sale at school via the School Council Stationery Shop. A price list for the shop is as follows:

Pencil 30p

Handwriting pen £1

Purple biro 30p

Ruler 60p

Rubber 50p

Pencil case £1.50

Whiteboard pen 70p

Pencil sharpener 80p

Individual Colouring Pencil 30p

Set of 12 pencils with case £2

Glue stick £1

Scissors £2

Please ensure the children bring the correct change into school, in a named envelope. We ask that 'Smiggle' pencil cases and related novelty products are not brought into school.

I look forward to a fantastic Spring Term.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Davis