

Skyswood Primary & Nursery School

Chandlers Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL4 9RS

Tel No: 01727 854164

Email: admin@skyswood.aetrust.uk

Headteacher: Mr R J Bridle

Thursday 3rd September 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to Year One! We hope you had a lovely summer break. What a fantastic start to the new school year we have had. The children have settled exceptionally well and we are looking forward to the year ahead!

In Year One, the children will continue to have the opportunity to change their reading books up to twice a week – Mondays and Thursdays. Please aim to read with your child each day for approximately 5 minutes and record this, along with any comments, in your child's reading record. In addition, please give your child plenty of opportunities to read to you in different contexts – the more reading the better! Comprehension is vital, so please talk about the character, predict what might happen and discuss what is happening in the story. Please also number the 'nights' you read at home so all the children can be involved in the 50 Night Read. We will encourage the children to complete this challenge at school too!

Spellings, based on Read Write Inc. work, will be given out every Friday and tested the following Friday.

As a Key Stage we are no longer sending home the Maths Cards. This will be replaced by a suggested 15 minutes of Numbots or Times Tables Rock Stars a week. Children will be given their individual Login and Passwords on Friday 4th September. This time can be replaced by any other forms of times tables practice if you prefer e.g. verbal rehearsal or written practise. The times tables Year One should focus on are the 2's, 5's and 10's. This includes rapid recall of all multiplication and division facts. If you feel your child is secure in these please do let us know and we can give them access to the next times table of focus.

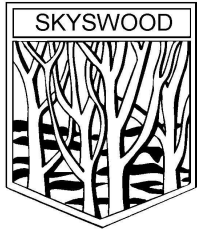
If you feel you would like to support your child further with their Maths, you are able to access a parent and pupil section of the White Rose website. This will show you what the Maths focus is for this term which is Place Value (initially numbers 1-10), Addition and Subtraction and Shape.

In English we will be focusing on Labels and Captions, Narratives to Entertain, Writing to Inform and Poetry.

The focus this term is Animals including Humans in Science Guy Fawkes in History, Weather in Geography, Mark Making in Art, and Masks in D&T, Technology around Us in Computing, What should we be thankful for? in R.E. and finally Being Me in P.S.H.E.

PE lessons will take place every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. However, for the first few weeks Mr. Bridle is going to complete an Art topic with the class so these sessions will be flexible. It is advisable to keep kits in school in case of non-timetabled sessions. We aim to go outside when appropriate so children will need their trainers where possible. Please ensure all kit and uniform is named, so we can return any mislaid items - thank you.





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Please can I request that you each send in a named adult sized T-shirt for your children to wear as an art apron as soon as possible. These will be passed to Year Two so you will only be required to provide them once.

When we have warmer weather, please ensure your child has a sun hat and that sun cream is applied before school. Throughout the year, we encourage children to bring in a water bottle which should be taken home each evening. Please note that only water should be in the water bottle and snacks are limited to the fruit provided by school or a piece of fruit from home.

Finally, please let us know if you would like to help in class with either maths and/or reading. We would really appreciate any support that you can offer.

Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have!

Many thanks,

Mia Harvey and Jo Reynolds

