

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
**ENSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL**



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Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents,

We have had a very successful start to the term, and it has been a pleasure to see how confidently and happily the children have settled back into school routines. Both Year 1 and Reception have already shown great enthusiasm for their learning, and it has been lovely to see their curiosity, creativity, and growing independence.

Year 1 are looking forward to a busy and exciting term ahead. They will be learning about toys from the past, comparing them with those we use today, and exploring what the weather is like across the UK. The children will also enjoy experimenting with colour mixing and developing their design and making skills by creating their own windmills.

Reception will be focusing on the signs of winter, exploring seasonal changes in the world around them. They will be mixing paint to create wonderful images, exploring maps to develop their understanding of places, and taking part in practical activities such as making soup. We are very much looking forward to the rest of the term and all the learning, discovery, and fun it will bring for everyone.

### **Eco Schools**

This year our class focus is 'Our School Grounds' and as part of this, Glyme will be taking part in the RSPB Big Schools' Bird Watch. The event takes place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January and is open to everyone! If you would like to join the world's largest garden wildlife survey, you'll find all the information you will need at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/>

### **P.E.**

This term P.E takes place on a Monday and Friday afternoon. Please ensure that P.E kits are kept in school at all times. P.E kits should comprise of a blue school t-shirt, navy shorts, a navy sweatshirt, navy tracksuit bottoms and trainers. If your child is unable to tie their shoelaces, please provide them with Velcro fastening trainers.

### **Homework**

Homework in Year 1 consists of weekly spellings, reading and maths activities. These activities are designed to reinforce the objectives your child has been working on in class.



## **Year 1 Spelling**

Homework will involve learning to spell words which contain the sounds we have been working on in our phonics lessons, high frequency words, common exception words and specific spelling patterns. Spelling homework will be issued on a Friday, and our weekly spelling dictation will take place on the following Thursday. A Dojo point will be awarded for a completed spelling sheet.

## **Reading**

We would like your child to read their Phonics Bug book or any other suitable text to an adult at home, three times per week. Please make a note of your child's reading sessions in their reading diary. Reading diaries are checked on a Friday and a Dojo point (for Year 1 children) will be issued for completing this activity.

We understand that some weeks it might be harder to read three times than others but reading regularly at home will help to develop your child's vocabulary, comprehension and spelling skills.

During the next few weeks, we will assess the Year 1 pupils' ability to read a variety of key words. Your child may be given a list of words to work on at home and in school. It would be helpful to revise these key words regularly to build your child's fluency. Please don't tick or highlight the words on the list. We will tick them off when we feel confident that your child can read them accurately.

## **Maths**

### **Year 1**

In maths this term, we will be working on place value, addition and subtraction all within 20. Homework will continue to be allocated on a Friday and should be completed and returned by the following Thursday. If your child is unsure about how to tackle the homework activity, feel free to write a note on their activity sheet. A Dojo point will be awarded for completed maths homework.

## **Reception**

In Reception this term we will be focusing on the numbers 5-8 as well as looking at mass and capacity.

## **Waffle the Bear**

Many thanks to those of you who have hosted Waffle. The children thoroughly enjoy telling their friends all about his adventures!

I hope that you find this information helpful. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to ask a member of the Glyme team.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs A. Griffith*

Glyme Class teacher

