



Year One News

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

We hope that you all had a restful and peaceful Christmas break. We would all like to thank you again for the cards, gifts and well-wishes we received at the end of term, they were much appreciated.

The end of term was incredibly busy and we were very proud of Year One, who blew us all away with their brilliant singing and acting in our Christmas performance. We have recharged our batteries and are full of enthusiasm for the new year and another exciting half term in Year One. The children are already off to a great start and it has been lovely to have them all back together in school this week.

We have a new Geography based Topic in Year One this half term "What is the weather like where we live?" We will be learning all about the weather linked to seasonal change. More details about this topic can be found with the attached curriculum information.

PE and a Healthy Active lifestyle.

This half term, we will be coached in Gymnastics by Newcastle Sports Service on **Tuesday afternoons**. We will also have a fundamental movement lesson delivered by Mr Richardson on **Thursday mornings** in Hazel Class and **Friday afternoons** in Birch Class. We continue to be committed to ensuring the children get their active 30 minutes a day in school. We all enjoy our daily run, as well as using the balance bikes and outdoor equipment at afternoon play. We have plans for utilising the outdoor area this half term and for those days when the winter weather is just too wet, we use the website "GoNoodle." This is an excellent resource to keep children active and includes different movement types such as guided dance, which the children love, but it also includes sensory and motor skills, mindfulness and social and emotional support activities. If you would like to use this at home you just need to register your e mail address.

The photos below are a snapshot of learning from last half term. Please follow us on X/Twitter to find out more about our learning in Year One. We are @BirchclassHFS and @hazelclassHFS



Reading and Phonics:

We are pleased with the progress the children are making both in phonics and reading. They are enjoying our group reading sessions and are applying the skills they have learnt in our daily phonics sessions. Please continue to practise reading with your child as regularly as possible. You may have noticed that on the inside cover of each book there is a list of digraphs, tricky words and vocabulary, which we use in our group reading sessions. Reinforcing this work by asking your child about the meaning of new vocabulary and checking that they are able to read all of the digraphs and tricky words automatically will help them both with their reading fluency and their understanding of the text.

We continue to work hard to ensure that the children are happy and settled and as ever communication between home and school is key. Please do not hesitate to pop in and see us, contact us by telephone, or e-mail if you have any queries or concerns. We are also usually available before school for the passing on of quick messages and after school if you require a longer chat.

Many Thanks

Sally McMillan, Fiona Jones and Heidi Walker