

Key Stage 1 Newsletter Autumn Term 2023



Tannery Drift
First School

ROYSTON • HERTFORDSHIRE

www.tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new school year and to all our new children, families and staff. We are so proud of how well the children have settled back in to life at Tannery Drift and we thank you for all your support in this first week. We have planned lots of exciting learning for this term and this newsletter will give you a taste of what the children will be learning about during the Autumn Term. Information about our curriculum for the Autumn term is also available on the school website on the class pages to give you further information. Any support you are able to provide on these topics will enrich the children's learning experiences.

Topics and Themes

Year 1

Our first topic this year will involve the children discovering more about where we live, focusing on our local environment and maps. This links into our Science where we will be investigating everyday materials and seasonal changes, using our outdoor environments. We will develop our Art and DT skills by creating collages and paper mechanisms.

Year 2

Our first topic this school year is 'Our Wonderful World'. We will be exploring the 7 continents and 5 oceans that make up our planet. We will look at the 4 countries that make up the United Kingdom and the human and physical features they are known for. This links into our Science looking at animals and their habitats. In Art we will be developing our painting skills and in DT we will be using textiles.

More Curriculum Information

Half-termly curriculum maps detailing themes and learning outcomes across all areas of the curriculum, can be found on our class pages of the school website. The Maths and English sections of the website contain detailed information on year group objectives and methods.

Reading

Of course, reading helps to enrich your child's language and makes them a better writer. Reading together and experiencing the wonders of a book is one of the most valuable ways of helping your child learn. Children are encouraged to read for pleasure and have a wide selection of books to choose from in the classrooms. The school has recently purchased new phonics-based reading books which the children will be able to take home and share.

Year 1

In Year 1, Mrs Presland teaches Owls, supported by Mrs Leggett and Miss Clark. Miss Johnson teaches Pelicans, supported by Miss Fenton.

Please look on the class pages of the website to find out more about the class environments.

Year 2

In Year 2, Miss Watts teaches the Puffin Class, supported by Mrs Lawrence. Mrs Torres will teach the Puffins on a Thursday morning.

Mrs Davies teaches the Red Fox Class on a Monday and Tuesday morning and Mrs Grainger from Tuesday to Friday, supported by Mrs Patterson.

PE

All children in KS1 will be encouraged to be active every day, from the daily mile to active English/Maths sessions and formal PE lessons. Children will need to come to school wearing their PE kit on their PE day, as follows:

Year 1: Friday

Year 2: Monday and Tuesday

Equipment

Please ensure children come to school prepared for all weathers, with warm waterproof clothing including a pair of named wellies or shoes that can get muddy. We encourage children to go outside in all weathers and we will be outside for many lessons this term. Children must also have indoor shoes to change in to.

Please check that your child brings in a named water bottle to school each day – only water is permitted. School will provide a healthy snack every day but children are also permitted to bring in their own healthy snack for break time. This should ideally be fruit, vegetables, crackers or plain biscuits. No nut products, sweets or high sugar/salt items (such as cakes, crisps, chocolate biscuits etc.) are allowed as we follow the 'Healthy Schools' initiative.

Please name everything, including shoes, coats and PE kits. We aim to foster independence and to do this, children need to be able to recognise their own names and clothing.

Punctuality

Please ensure that all children arrive in school on time and ready to learn each morning. Lessons and learning start promptly every day. Thank you for your support.

Home Learning

Please support your child with their reading at home by reading at least three times a week. Discussing what they have read and sharing predictions for what might happen is key to supporting their comprehension skills. We encourage children to be independent in knowing that their reading book needs changing and change it themselves.

More information about spellings and how to best support your child in their phonics and spelling skills will be sent out during the year group meetings or later in the term.

We hope children are also enjoying '100 Things To Do Whilst At Tannery Drift'. Copies can be downloaded from the class pages on the school website.

Dates for your diary

September

Tues 19th Year group meetings*
Wed 20th FTDS AGM
7.30pm in the Enrichment Room
Fri 29th FTDS cake sale*

October

Tues 3rd Individual and family photographs*
Fri 6th Red Fox Class Assembly
9.15am in the hall – parents welcome
Tues 17th Parent Consultations*
Thurs 19th Parent Consultations*
Fri 20th Half-term
- 27th
Mon 30th Children return to school

November

Fri 10th Puffin Class Assembly
9.15am in the hall – parents welcome
Tue 14th Open Classrooms and Art Gallery*

December

Fri 1st Occasional Day – school closed
Tues 12th/ KS1 Christmas Show*
Weds 13th 9.30am
Fri 15th Christmas Dinner Day*
Wed 20th End of term 2pm

* More details to follow

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Best wishes from

The Key Stage 1 Team



Enjoyment, achievement, respect

