Lambourne Primary School
Hoe Lane, Abridge, Essex RM4 1AU
Tel: 01992 812230
Headteacher: Mr J Coombes
School website: www.lambourne.efspt.org
School email: office@lambourne.efspt.org

Monday 14th September 2026

Dear Families,

Below you will find some key information about your child's new year group. We value the working relationships we have with our families and in order for your child to make the best progress, we must continue to work together.You will also see below the expectations around home learning and reading. Home learning not only supports your child in an academic sense, but also ensures that they learn the importance of deadlines and responsibility - key skills which will prepare them for life.

We will celebrate children who consistently read, in line with our schools expectations (5 pages per day) and record this in their reading records through certificates and other awards. As well as this, we may also provide children with the chance to catch up with missed home learning (spellings, homework and reading) during break or lunchtime.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's home learning, your partnership only helps aid and support the progress your child makes.

Mr J Coombes

Dear Parents,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Class 1! We hope you have all had a fantastic summer break and we look forward to the positive year ahead. As we come to the end of our first few weeks back at school we would like to thank you all for your support in settling your child back into school life.

Please find below the key information for our year ahead in Class 1. If you have any questions about anything at any point during the year, please feel free to contact the school office and one of us will get back to you as soon as possible.

We aim to make the transition, from a play-based learning style in Reception to more formal lessons in Class 1, as smooth as possible for our Year 1 children. With this in mind, the children will continue to have access to continuous provision (play-based learning) in most of our lessons for as long as needed by our learners. This may be through our book corner, at our writing station, in the outdoor area, at our maths station or investigation areas. During this time we will be focussing on letter formation, writing numerals, understanding of numbers, holding and using scissors and applying their learning through play-based activities. At pick up please wait by the yellow line and we will send your child to you. If there is anyone different other than yourselves picking up your child please let the office know before 3:10pm.

Our Team

The members of our Class 1 team are Mrs Boulton on a Monday and Friday and Mrs Hemmings Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. Mrs Chillmaide will be supporting the children everyday and Ms Mel will be in class every morning.

Curriculum Outline

This year your child's learning will be linked as much as possible through our topics. These include Living Here (Autumn 1), Making History (Autumn 2), A Toy Story (Spring 1), Explorers (Spring 2) Weather (Summer 1) and Shanghai (Summer 2). We will begin the autumn term by learning about the geography of where we live, developing our map skills and exploring what it is like to live in our local area. In the second half of the term, we will begin our first history topic, ' Making History', where the children will explore their own lives and experiences and begin to understand how they are part of history.

In the spring term, our history learning will take us back in time as we explore the history of toys, discovering how toys have changed over the years. Alongside this, our geography topic will focus on weather, where the children will observe, describe and begin to understand different types of weather.

Finally, in the summer term, our geography learning will take us further afield to China, with a particular focus on Shanghai. We will explore what life is like there and compare the city and its surroundings with where we live. Our history topic will then introduce the children to explorers and how they have changed the world, discovering some of the journeys they made and the impact they had.

It's going to be a fantastic year of exploring, questioning and discovering!

Reading and Phonics

Developing reading skills in our young readers is at the centre of our Year 1 curriculum. This will support them in applying their phonics to write words and sentences. Your child will be sent home with one reading book each week which will be closely matched to their phonic understanding and what is being taught in class. Your child should read regularly, daily if possible, at home. It would be really helpful if you could write a comment in your child's reading record books when you listen to your child read. We will also visit our school library every Monday to enhance reading for pleasure. Please ensure your child's library book is in their book bags every Monday so they can swap them for new.

Phonics Screening Test

It is a government requirement for your child to partake in the Year 1 Phonics Screening Test in the month of June. This will test your child's ability in recognising the phonics sounds they have learnt in both Reception and Year 1, and their ability to segment and blend. More information will be provided in the New Year about this.

PE

Our PE days will usually be on a Monday and Wednesday each week. One lesson will be taught by our PE teacher Mr Fordham, and the other will be taught by Mrs Boulton. The children will change into their PE kits in school this year, as opposed to coming into school wearing them, so PE kits will need to be in school. Earrings must be removed for PE lessons and a full school PE kit should be worn - shorts, t-shirt, plimsolls/trainers and jogging bottoms for the colder months. It would be really helpful if all parts of your child's PE kits are clearly named, and your child is independent in changing.

Absences

Please ring school by 8:30am if your child will be absent that day. It is expected that annual family holidays should be taken during the school holidays. Should you need to request absence from school, please complete a holiday absence request form from the office. Children are to have 95% attendance as a minimum.

Trips

Class 1 will have one school trip in the summer term. Information regarding this will follow in due course.

Uniform

Please can we ask that all jumpers and cardigans are clearly labelled with your child's name. A simple name label makes it much easier for lost items to find their way home.

Homework

Homework in Year 1 consists of weekly homework (spelling, reading and maths) and one half termly project based on the current curriculum topic. For every piece of homework submitted the children will receive a dojo point to celebrate the children's hard work.

	Year 1 - set on Monday, in on following Monday		
Year 1 weekly homework	**Spellings**	**Reading**	**Maths**
	spelling pattern words on spelling on paper to practice.	Daily reading	One page of maths linked to this weeks learning on paper in their folder

Termly creative project - Your child may want to choose from one of the below to create over the half term.			
Topic: Living here			
Make it! Combine geography and art by creating a colourful (possibly 3D) map of your world. You could draw it, paint it, make it from lego or even create it using recycled materials. Make sure you add a title, compass and map key	**Present it!** Become a geography Youtuber and make a 30-60 second video pretending you are a geography presenter. "Hello! I'm a geography explorer and I'm going to show you where I live . . ." Show us your street, local landmark,park, shop and something interesting. Don't worry about making it polished; you could simply narrate over photographs if you don't want to be on camera.	**Write it!** Fancy a treasure hunt, have a walk around your local area can you find these things: ● A road sign ● A street name ● A post box ● A zebra crossing ● A building with a numbers ● A green space. Photograph or draw what you find and explain what each thing tells us about where you live.	**Teach it!** Choose a nearby location and create a simple set of directions for example how to get from my house to the park . . .you could draw a map and use words such as: straight on, left, right, forwards, turn around. Can someone at home follow your directions without being shown the route?

Thanks again for your continued support and we look forward to an exciting year.

Kind regards,

Mrs Boulton & Mrs Hemmings