



Charlton Kings Infants' School

Lyefield Road East, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 8AY Telephone:

(01242) 514483



Head teacher: Katie James BA (Hons) QTS

Email: Head teacher: head@ckis.org.uk

School Business Manager: sbm@ckis.org.uk

Secretary: secretary@ckis.org.uk

Welcome to Year 1!

We are looking forward to a fun-filled year next academic year when your child/ren join us in Year 1! During the year, the children will work with increasing independence. We look forward to seeing them develop as confident and resilient learners as they make their way through this pivotal year.

This is the children's first year of following the National Curriculum. Our Year 1 timetable is designed to strike a balance between the expectations of the next phase of the children's education as well as tailoring our approach to suit each child's current stage of emotional and physical development.

As a transition into Year 1, we will be talking about ourselves. This will include learning about where we live and our bodies. We will then move onto thinking about 'The Dark' and exploring a lovely range of texts, including Beegu and Funny Bones. We are excited to see where the children's interests will take us!

Phonics is a key part of our teaching and learning at CKIS. It is imperative that our children experience success in this area of their learning in order to fully access reading, writing and all subjects throughout the curriculum. Phonics will be taught through whole class sessions and reinforced through daily learning across all subjects. **The children will bring their phonics work home to share with you on a daily basis.**

Reading is at the centre of our curriculum at CKIS. Our school day starts with ERIC (Everyone reading in class) time, where we share books with our friends. We use exciting texts to inspire us as writers and to conduct independent research across the Foundation subjects. As a continuation from Year R, we ask that **all children read daily** at home. This is essential in developing children's vocabulary and fluency. The class teacher changes the reading books taken home and will ensure that each child receives texts closely matched to their phonological awareness and the teaching in school.

Evidence demonstrates that children who acquire rich vocabulary through listening to, responding to and reading stories develop life-long communication skills. It is therefore vital that children not only read the books provided by school but, listen and respond to texts read to them by adults on a regular basis both at home and at school. It is important to encourage children to read a wide variety of different texts including non-fiction and poetry.

Maths is also taught in whole class sessions where all children will work towards the same learning objective. They will then be securing and deepening this understanding through learning activities known as 'do it, secure it and deepen it'. The children always enjoy this practical approach to their mathematic learning. In addition, children have opportunities to develop mathematical fluency through 'Magic Maths' sessions.

Foundation subjects are taught through a balance of whole class and child-initiated learning known as 'Challenge Time'. During this time, Teachers and Teaching Partners scaffold learning through the provision of high-quality teaching and learning experiences and environments. This allows children to apply their developing knowledge, skills and understanding within both the indoor and outdoor learning environments. Children will continue to have free flow access to the outdoor learning environment for these sessions as research demonstrates the importance of the outdoor learning environment for children of this age and stage of development. Our subject 'Learning Leaves' documenting the key knowledge, skills and understanding that children will learn within each subject are available on the school website [here](#), if you would like to find out more about what we are learning in each subject.

Home learning

We thank you for your commitment to work in partnership with us at school to support your child's ongoing learning and development. Listed below are the ways we will be asking you to support your child's learning at home:

- **Daily reading:** This is essential in developing children's oracy skills, vocabulary and fluency. It is important to encourage children to read a wide variety of different texts including non-fiction and poetry. Children should also have **daily** opportunities to listen to stories read by family members that are beyond their individual reading ability.
- **Phonics revision:** The children will have a phonics folder in their book bags which will be added to each week in school. Please ensure that you re-cap the new learning with your child on a weekly basis to secure their understanding and use in both their reading and writing.
- **Spellings:** The children will be given a list of words to learn to spell each term. For the children to spell these words consistently and independently, they need to practice and repeat them regularly to apply them in their own writing. You will receive more information about this in September.
- **Maths:** Your child will have continued access to 'Numbots' for daily maths practise.

Home learning during the Summer holidays:

- We would love you to send a postcard from somewhere you visit in the holidays. We will then share these as a class in September.
- We cannot emphasise strongly enough the importance of regular reading throughout the holiday. Follow this link to join in the summer reading challenge! <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>. We can't wait to celebrate with all those children who have successfully completed the challenge in September.

Equipment in school

Our storage space is limited in Year 1, and we therefore ask you to only bring a **named** book bag into school, rather than large backpacks. Children must have **named** PE kit in school at all times, to include velcro trainers, black or grey tracksuit bottoms/leggings/shorts, a yellow t-shirt, a plain grey/black sweatshirt and white socks. Please also ensure that children have a **named** waterproof coat and a **named** water bottle in school at all times, and continue to bring in a daily fruit or vegetable snack in a named, reusable container.

Communication

- Seesaw is our main form of communication with families, please look out for messages and updates through your app.
- If you need to contact your child's class teacher, please message them through Seesaw.
- There will be a termly topic letter, containing key information about teaching and learning, sent to all families at the beginning of each term. These will also be available on the Year 1 page of the school website.
- Please ensure contact details are up to date at the school office.

Attendance

School will begin for Year 1 pupils at **8.45am** each morning from September. Pupils should be dropped off at the back playground gate anytime from **8.40am** (at least one member of school staff is always at the gate on arrival and will signify that children can enter at 8.40am) where they can make their way to their classrooms to begin their learning. If your child has a sibling in Kindergarten, YR or Y2, you can drop off and collect your child from the Orange Class door (Lyefield Road East entrance). Learning begins immediately, so it is essential that children arrive at school punctually.

We hope you feel reassured about your child's transition to Year 1. We consider each child's emotional and academic journey when we plan our timetable, lessons, and environments. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries.

We are so looking forward to welcoming you into Year 1 in September and hope you all have a wonderful Summer holiday!

The Year 1 Team

Miss Smart (Orange Class), Mrs Turner and Miss Weyman (Purple Class),
and Mrs Thorp (Green Class)