

CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 1 - Autumn 2



Ted Wragg TRUST

Exwick Heights Primary School

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Tuesday 11th November 2025

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 1 pupils,

In **English**, Year 1 will be exploring both fiction and non-fiction texts. They will learn the story "I Love Bugs" which focusses on describing words and will create their own "I love text". Later, the children will write a recount of their trip. The children will continue to have daily phonics practice through our phonics programme Little Wandle.



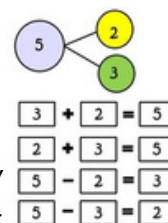
Supporting learning at home: Please encourage your child to complete any English tasks set through 'Doodle English' and provide opportunities for your child to practise their handwriting at home. Information about the phonics your child is learning will be included in their weekly home learning.



Children will benefit from regular **reading** practice. The benefit of reading can never be underestimated. We model reading with the children as well as hearing them read; ensure that your child sees you reading too!

Supporting learning at home: Please continue to support your child by reading with them for at least 15 minutes every day, particularly focusing on their Little Wandle book, which they should be able to read fluently.

In **Mathematics**, we will be learning about 2D and 3D shapes and continue to focus on **place value** in numbers to 10 and 20. We will then develop our **addition and subtraction** skills to 20. We will learn how to partition (pull apart) numbers to support their adding and taking away. They will use a variety of representations (images) and manipulatives (objects) to support their calculations. **Supporting learning at home:** We will introduce Doodle Learning which is set by your child's teacher. Please continue to practise writing numerals and numbers as words to 20 as well as encouraging your child to complete the activities set on 'Doodle Maths'.



In **Science**, the children will continue to observe **seasonal changes**. They will carry out observations of the changes in weather and conditions as we move from autumn to winter. In addition, the children will learn to identify and name a variety of deciduous and evergreen trees as well as describe their basic structure. As part of our enrichment, the children will get a chance to put their tree knowledge to the test on a trip to Killerton House and Gardens (more details to follow).

Supporting learning at home: Identify different types of leaves, note changes in weather and hours of daylight. Practise saying the months of the year and which season each month belongs in.

In **Geography**, the children will expand their locational knowledge in the unit topic '**Location, Location Location**' - They will learn basic mapping skills, compass points and carry out a local fieldwork study. We will use our map skills on our trip to Killerton.

Supporting learning at home: Explore maps and atlases together. Play direction games. Can the children make a map of their bedroom, home or their route to school?



REACH THE HEIGHTS

In **Design and Technology**, our topic is on creating structures. The children will learn cutting, measuring and joining skill and will create their own windmills. They will evaluate their designs. **Supporting learning at home:** *Explore making structures from junk modelling and encourage children to improve their cutting skills.*



In **indoor PE**, the children will be exploring shape, jumps and travel in **gymnastics** and will create their own sequences. In our **outdoor sessions**, they will focus on hit, catch and run.

Supporting learning at home: *Encourage the children to be as active as possible. Practise defending a target and catching games together*

Our PSHE topic this half term is Celebrating Differences. The children will fit together six pieces of learning about 'Similarities', 'Differences', 'What is bullying?', 'What do I do about bullying?', 'Making new friends', and 'Celebrating difference; celebrating 'me'. We will also be fundraising for Children in Need - a very worthwhile charity!



Supporting learning at home: *Friendships are a huge part of your child's life - when something goes wrong, listen to your child and allow them to talk it through.*



In **RE**, we will be answering the big question, "What do Christians believe god is like?" We will learn about how Christians show their love for God. We will learn about different types of prayer and why forgiveness is important. We will read parables from the New Testament including the Christmas story.

Supporting learning at home: *Talk about faith as a family and read stories or parables from a children's Bible.*

In **Music**, our topic is '**keeping the pulse**'. In this new unit, children explore keeping the pulse together through music and movement, by exploring their favourite things.

Supporting learning at home: *Listen to music together and try to identify the rhythm and pulse. Explore nursery rhymes together and identify rhyming words.*



Home Learning: All 'core' home learning will be checked on a Friday, with time scheduled in the day to share and celebrate any 'Curiosity' tasks completed. If you would like to email anything to share in this session, please use the admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk address.

Christmas here we come! We will be in touch soon with more information about the festivities planned for the Christmas season.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher directly or email admin@exwickheights.devon.sch.uk; your query will be passed to them. If you have any concerns or want to bring something to our attention, please do contact the Year Group Lead - Miss Haswell.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R. Haswell
Anning

Miss S. Dugdale
Earhart

