

CURRICULUM LETTER

Year 1 - Autumn 1



Ted Wragg TRUST

Exwick Heights Primary School

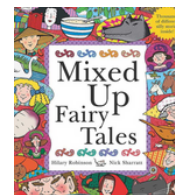
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Monday 8th September 2025

Dear Parents / Carers of Exwick Heights Year 1 pupils,

In **English**, the children will start with the fundamentals of writing sentences using images and short story sequences to practise their writing. They will focus on using capital letters, full stops, finger spaces, and their phonic knowledge to spell words. This will be modelled and revisited in all writing lessons throughout the year. Following this, we will then explore mixed-up fairy tales for a longer writing unit and, by the end, the children will have a chance to write their own stories using familiar characters. We will also be learning to write simple instructions following making jam sandwiches!



Supporting learning at home: Please encourage your child to complete any English tasks set through 'Doodle English'. Please 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; please encourage your child to practise this when doing any handwriting.

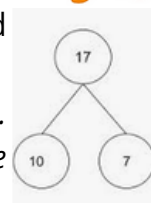


Each week, the children take part in three **reading** practice sessions where they develop their **decoding, fluency and comprehension** skills by reading a book matched to their phonic knowledge. Any reading that can be done at home is invaluable and will greatly support your child's reading and vocabulary development. **Supporting learning at home:** Please continue to support your child by reading with them at least 15 minutes every day, particularly focusing on their Little Wandle book, which they should be able to read fluently. Your child should bring in their Reading Record (with a minimum of three entries) every Friday as part of our Read to Succeed ticket reward.

In **Mathematics**, we will be beginning the year by learning about place value up to 10. We will practise counting forwards and backwards as well as sorting, grouping and ordering numbers. Following that, we will compare numbers looking at the 'less than' and 'greater than' (<,>) symbols and how numbers are positioned on a number line. After this, we will begin learning about addition and subtraction by looking at the part-whole model, fact families and the number bonds to 10.



Supporting learning at home: Please support your child to master counting up and backwards from 10. This is an important skill that will be used throughout the key stages. Please encourage your child to complete the activities set on 'Doodle Maths'.



In **Science**, the children will be starting a new topic on **Seasonal Changes**. We will start by looking at autumn and winter and the changes that we see. We will learn the months of the year and will focus upon changes in weather, plants and nature. We will work scientifically by gathering data about how the weather changes

Supporting learning at home: Please discuss what your child has learned; this consolidation really helps them remember and recall facts. Take walks and talk about the changes in the seasons that you see.

In **History**, we will study **Dinosaurs**. We will learn about when and where they lived.

We will look at fossils, group different species of dinosaurs and understand how they became extinct.

Supporting learning at home: Discuss the topic with your children. You can research dinosaurs together and visit a library to find out more about these amazing creatures.



REACH THE HEIGHTS



In **Art**, the children will be exploring **mark-making**. They will experiment with line, texture and shape and will investigate drawing with different materials. They will also study portraits and draw their own self-portraits

Supporting learning at home: *Talk about different artists and encourage the children to doodle and draw as much as possible. We would love to see their artistic creations!*

In **PE**, we will start two units. In the first unit, the children will be taught how to throw and return a ball using different equipment. They will focus on using space to **attack and defend** in small games. In indoor PE, the children will create their own **dance** moves and sequences.

Supporting learning at home: *Ensure a PE kit is kept in school. Practise ball games together.*

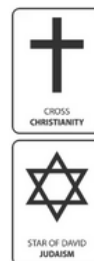


Our **PSHE** topic this half term is **Being me**. The children will be exploring the sense of self. They will celebrate their strengths and set goals for the future. They will explore their relationships with others and learn how to keep healthy.

Supporting learning at home: *Talk about healthy relationships, how to keep safe and healthy. Encourage the children to think about all the people they can talk to if they have worries both at home and at school.*

In **RE**, we will be answering the big question **'What is it like to belong to a faith community?'** As part of this unit, the children will consolidate all of their RE learning through discussion and comparison. They will further develop their knowledge of both Judaism and Christianity as they learn about what it is like to be part of a religious community. They will discuss the concept of belonging, symbols, ceremonies and celebrations.

Supporting learning at home: *Discuss different faiths and beliefs, noticing places of worship in the local area.*



Computer Keyboard



In **Computing**, our topic is **Technology around us**. The children will be developing their Chrome Book skills and will explore typing using the keyboard. They will be taught about adding and removing text, the toolbar, making changes to text and exploring art programs.

Supporting learning at home: *If you have a laptop or computer at home, any opportunity to practise finding letters on the keyboard would be invaluable.*

Home Learning: All 'core' home learning and reading records 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.

We can't wait to begin our Year 1 journey together and look forward to working with you! 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 Dugdale
Earhart