



September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 1! We hope you have had a great summer and are now ready for the busy and exciting year ahead.

The Year 1 team this year are:

1P (Purple class) – **Jenny Leung (Year Team Leader)**

1B (Blue class) – **Zofia Stepniak**

1O (Orange class) – **Maddy Keefe**

1R (Red class) – **Chloe Collins**

The teaching assistants are:

Davorka Andjelic - Year team TA

Bob Houghton – Year team TA (AM only)

Nicola Emms – Year team TA (PM only)

Judith Adams - Year team TA (Wednesday – Friday)

Kristina Carey - Year team TA (Thursday – Friday)

Rika Manabe - Year team TA (Monday – Wednesday)

Louise Mattocks – Year team TA (Monday – Wednesday)

Ms Sarah Crawford will be teaching art to all four classes this year, **Jason Bichri** will be teaching computing and **Mario Vitrano** will be teaching one session of PE a week.

Curriculum:

Our **history** topic for this half-term is 'A Child Through Time'. We are going to learn how there are different types of 'long ago' as we look at the lives of children in various places and different times. We will explore children from the stone age, in early civilisations in India, children in Sparta in Ancient Greece, a Viking child, a young girl living in Timbuktu in the 15th century and the boy King Edward VI. We will compare the lives of these children with our own lives in modern Britain.

Our **geography** topic for next half-term is 'Our World'. Building on the topic from Reception that explores places that are special to them, children will learn about the countries that make up the United Kingdom and study the countries they feel connected to, either through family, travel, or interests. They will learn about the differences and similarities between places and think about why some places are rural and some are urban. We will also be introducing the work people do to conserve these beautiful vital regions.

Our **science** topic is 'Animals including humans'. Within this we will be learning about the classification or grouping of animals. We will also be naming and labelling key parts of the human body and thinking about how we use our senses.

In **English**, we will be focusing on forming our letters correctly; using our phonics to sound out and write words; and beginning to write simple sentences. We will be using different stimuli so please look at the weekly overview for further details.

In **maths**, we will be focusing on numbers up to 10. We will be ordering numbers and using language such as 'one more, one less, greater than, less than'. We will also be adding and subtracting within 10.

Headteacher Leon Choueke

In **music**, our unit is 'An Introduction to Instruments'. We will be learning how to play percussion instruments with control.

In **computing** (with Jason), our unit is 'Algorithms Unplugged'. This unplugged unit requires no computers so that algorithms, decomposition, and debugging are made relatable to familiar contexts, such as dressing up, following directions, or making a sandwich, while learning why instructions need to be specific and unambiguous.

In **PE**, we will be focusing on gymnastics and games this term.

The children have two PE sessions each week, but the days vary on a fortnightly basis. A PE timetable will be displayed on our classroom doors as well as on the school website.

1B – **Week 1** – Monday/Tuesday **Week 2** - Tuesday/Friday

1O – **Week 1** – Tuesday/Thursday **Week 2** - Monday/Friday

1P – **Week 1** - Wednesday/Friday **Week 2** - Monday/Thursday

1R – **Week 1** – Wednesday/Friday **Week 2** - Monday/Wednesday

Reading

An important focus in Year 1, reading requires lots of your attention at home. Your child's reading day will be displayed in the classroom window within the next few days. We will be sending home two banded reading books along with a library book that your child will choose themselves. Please listen to your child read every day for about 10 minutes. It is necessary for children to reread the banded books two or three times to ensure they are improving their fluency. You could also play some phonics/reading games if your child needs to practise sound recognition or key word (tricky word) recognition. The ideal is for your child to be able to read the books provided independently with minimal sounding out by the time they are ready to swap books.

We have received new reading diaries and will be sending them home in your child's bookbag next week. Please read the phonics and reading letter/guidance that we are sending home as this will give you more information about what we teach at school and how you can help your child at home.

Weekly overview

The weekly overview will be uploaded onto ParentHub every Friday afternoon. This will tell you what we are teaching the following week and will let you know of any important information for the following week.

MyMaths

MyMaths is an interactive online website that children can use to consolidate their maths learning. Use our school login (Username: coleridge1, Password: success74), and then your own login details, to access activities related to our current topic on the MyMaths website. Your login details will be sent home to you next week. Some of the MyMaths activities are harder than others and your child may need support with some activities, so we recommend that this is a joint activity. Feel free to try as many as you can, but do not worry if they find some of them too difficult. If this is the case, then please just move on and try something else. New activities and games will be assigned to your child every term to match the learning we are doing in school.

For more independent learning, we recommend **Numbots**. This is an app which builds number knowledge as its focus is addition and subtraction. Children cannot move forward until their learning is secure and are kept motivated by updating and building their own robots.

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Junk Modelling

We would really appreciate any cardboard to use for junk modelling (no toilet rolls or drinks cartons please).

Clothes

Please ensure that your child's coats and jumpers are named so that it is easy for us to return them if they get lost.

Spare Clothes

We would also really appreciate any spare clothes at school. If you have any old tracksuits bottoms, leggings, underwear, or socks that your child does not need any more, please give them to your child's class teacher.

Money for cooking, arts, and crafts

There is a money collection box in each class where you can make a voluntary contribution for ingredients for playdough and cooking, and for arts and crafts materials (e.g. sequins, pipe cleaners, craft sticks, pompoms etc.). We are suggesting 50p/£1 per child per week and really would appreciate your support.

Curriculum Chat

We are inviting parents in for a curriculum chat on **Wednesday 23rd September**. We will be explaining what happens in Year 1 and it will also give you the chance to meet all the other Year 1 parents. The talk will take place in the East hall at 9:05am. Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be served.

Trips

We have the following trips booked so far for this year:

Monday 9th November – London Symphony Orchestra concert for KS1 at the Barbican

Tuesday 1st December - **1P** trip to National Gallery

Thursday 7th January – **1R** trip to National Gallery

Wednesday 27th January – **1B** trip to National Gallery

Friday 23rd April – **1O** trip to National Gallery

Further information to follow nearer the time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher. You can do this by emailing the school office - admin@coleridgeprimary.net. We will reply to emails or arrange a phone call with you as soon as possible.

Thank you for all your support and co-operation, we are looking forward to a happy and successful year together.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 1 Team

Headteacher Leon Choueke

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