



Welcome to Year 1!

Partnering Together for a Fantastic Year

Our shared goal

- Helping every child become an independent, confident and enthusiastic learner.
- Introducing the Year 1 team and the people who will support your child.



Moving up to Key Stage 1

A gentle transition from Reception to Year 1

Start gently

- Early Autumn term will still feel familiar.
- Continuous provision and learning through play help children settle.

Build gradually

- We slowly introduce more formal, table-based learning.
- Children develop stamina and routines as the term progresses.

Grow independence

- Practise zipping coats, changing shoes and opening lunchboxes.
- Small skills make a big difference to confidence.

The move to Year 1 is a journey — not an overnight switch.

How We Keep in Touch

Three simple places to stay connected

ClassDojo

- Daily updates
- Quick reminders
- Celebrating children's achievements
- Please turn on notifications

ParentPay

- Longer, formal school communications
- Newsletters
- Trip permissions and payments

School website

- Long-term dates
- Key policies and information
- Regularly check for updates

Top tip: switch on ClassDojo notifications so important updates don't get missed.

Becoming Confident Readers

Phonics, practice and plenty of encouragement

Little Wandle

- Daily, structured phonics
 - Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
 - Children build secure decoding skills step by step
- <https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Reading at home

- Books are carefully matched to each child's phonic stage
- The aim is success, confidence and fluency
- Phonics Workshop – November 6th 9am

Read it again!

- Repeated reading builds speed
- It develops expression and confidence
- An 'easy' book is often exactly what your child needs

The most powerful thing you can do? Read regularly, celebrate effort and enjoy books together.

Looking Ahead: The Phonics Screening Check

A short, low-stress check in June

What is it?

- A statutory assessment in June
- Designed to check children's decoding skills

What happens?

- A quick 1-to-1 session
- Children read 40 words aloud to their teacher

What will they read?

- 20 real words
- 20 pseudo-words ('alien words')
- This helps us check pure decoding skills

No pressure: daily phonics and regular reading are the best preparation.

Section 2

brend



throst



stret



spraw



Section 2

label

vanish

blossom

thankful

Working in Partnership

Come in, see the learning and join the journey

Stay and Read

- Regular opportunities to come into class
- Share books and reading time with your child

Parent workshops

- Understand how we teach maths
- Explore writing and phonics
- Ask questions and see approaches in action

Dates & information

- Upcoming sessions will be advertised
- Check the school website for dates and times

We warmly encourage you to join us — it's a great way to understand and support learning at home.

Date	Where	Workshop	Intended Audience
9 th October 9am	School Hall	Starting KS1	Year 1 parents
6 th November 9am	School Hall	Phonics	Anyone interested in learning to read – especially Reception, Year 1 and 2
13 th November 9am	School Hall	Supporting children with handwriting	Anyone interested in supporting handwriting at home
27 th November 9am	School Hall	Early Maths – EYFS & KS1	Anyone interested in early maths skills – especially Reception, Year 1
22 nd January 9am	School Hall	How we teach Maths at Ainslie Wood KS2	Anyone interested in supporting with maths at home – especially for years 3,4,5 & 6
5 th February 3.45 pm	Year 6 classrooms	Year 6 SATS	Year 6 parents
12 th February 9am	School Hall	Keeping safe online	All
5 th March 9am	School Hall	Supporting children's wellbeing at home	All
19 th March 3.45pm	Year 6 classrooms	RSHE at Ainslie Wood	Year 6 parents

Ready for the Day

A few simple routines help Year 1 run smoothly

LABEL EVERYTHING

Uniform, coats and PE kits can look identical. Please name every item!

WATER EVERY DAY

Bring a labelled water bottle. Water only — no juice or squash.

Attendance

Ensure children are on time and attend as much as they can.

PE DAYS

Please check the school's PE-day arrangements and send children dressed appropriately.

The Social Journey!

It is a year of discovery!

Discovering me! – “Who am I?”

- Stronger sense of their own identity
- becoming increasingly aware of their bodies, personalities, preferences and emotions.
- Developing independence

Discovering Others – “Where do I fit?”

- Making and changing friendships
- Noticing similarities and differences between themselves and others
- Learning to manage disagreements, negotiation and compromise.

Discovering the World – “What matters to me?”

- Asking increasingly thoughtful questions about the world.
- Developing confidence to be themselves while respecting others.

Any questions, any time – please ask. Keep in touch.

Thank you for partnering with us

Together, we can make Year 1 a happy, successful and memorable year for every child.

Questions? We're looking forward to working with you.