Nacton C of E Primary School

Half Termly Newsletter

Reception and Year 1 – Spring 1 2026

Dear families,

Happy new year, I hope you all had a lovely, restful Christmas! I am very excited to join the team at Nacton, getting to know the hedgehogs and creating an environment that all children feel safe, calm and ready to learn. This half term reception will be continuing to focus on writing their name and writing CVC words. Year 1 will start exploring the story 'The Girl and the Dinosaur' and will be creating various types of writing from this.

Please ensure that you look at the home learning requirements below to ensure that your child is reaching the expectations, if you are unable to access the home learning please speak to your class teacher.

Team Nacton

Literacy

EYFS:

- Name writing
- CVC words

Year One:

- Writing in character
- Using 'and' to join and extend sentences.
- To write a sequence of events

Phonics

EYFS:

In Phonics we will be learning our phase 3 graphemes: ai ee igh oa oo oo ar or ur ow oi ear air er

- words with double letters
- longer words

Tricky words: was you they my by all are sure pure

Year One:

In phonics the children will be learning:
/ee/: y funny
/e/: ea head
/w/: wh wheel
/oa/: oe ou toe shoulder
/igh/: y fly
/oa/: ow snow
/j/: g giant
/f/: ph phone
/l/: le al apple metal
/s/: c ice
/v/: ve give
/u/: o-e o ou some mother young
/z/: se cheese
/s/: se ce mouse fence
/ee/: ey donkey
/oo/: ui ou fruit soup

Tricky words: any many again who whole where two school call different thought through friend work

Communication & Language

Our focus in Communication and language is on expressing ideas and feelings about experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from the teacher.

As well as developing our questioning skills by asking questions to find out about others and their likes and dislikes.

Year One
Orally rehearsing our sentences before writing them.

Explaining how we know an answer.

Maths

EYFS

In Maths this half term we continue learning:

- Subitising
- Composition
- Cardinality
- Comparison
- Numbers 1-10

Year One

- Mastering number
- place value within 20
- addition and subtraction within 20
- Length and height
- Mass and volume

Science

(Understanding the World- EYFS)

This half term in science we will be looking at everyday materials.

- Types of materials
- Comparing materials
- What materials we use to make items
- Where materials come from

History

(Understanding the World- EYFS)

EYFS

In our Understanding the World sessions we will be finding out:

- What transport means
- What type of transport we can use
- Where types of transport will take us.

Year One

Transport.

- Purpose and exploring how these change over time

Personal, Social and Emotional Development (Reception)

The children will continue to focus on building relationships with their peers and adults within the school, due to changes in adult support.

Know that they should speak to an adult if they are ever worried or feel uncomfortable about another adult.

Understand ways to keep safe and not get lost and know the steps to take if they do get lost.

Understand and name jobs that people do to help keep us safe.

Physical Development

PE this half term we will be looking at ball games and yoga. PE will be on a Monday and Thursday.

Our fine motor skills work is focusing on building the muscles in our hands, to support with future writing. Activities such as:

- Threading
- Nuts and bolts
- Stamps
- Dough disco
- Zips and buttons

This half term the EYFS children will continue to practice putting on their coats. This forms part of our end of year assessments please support your children in achieving this goal by giving them plenty of practice in putting their own coats on.

RE

Our question in RE this half term is: How do some Muslims show compassion?

PSHE

(Personal, social and emotional development EYFS)

This half term we will be looking at safety. We will look at how the children feel using appropriate vocabulary, recognising what safe means and what to do in situations they do not feel safe.

Computing (Year 1)

In computing we will look at programming. The children will understand what a command is and how to instruct a piece the 'beebots' to perform an action.

Music and Art

(Expressive arts and design).

In art we will be exploring collage. We will look at how pieces of art make us feel and compare similarities and differences between artwork.
We will be looking at Richard Long's and Andy Goldsworthy's art work and recreating our own inspired art.
We will be looking at skills such as

Know that they should speak to an adult if they are ever worried or feel uncomfortable about another adult. Understand ways to keep safe and not get lost and know the steps to take if they do get lost. Understand and name jobs that people do to help keep us safe		cutting, tearing and sticking. We will learn what media and collage.

Important dates:	Home learning expectations:
3rd March – World book day 20th March Red nose day	EYFS: - Sharing their story book a minimum three times a week- please record this in their reading diary. The repetition of the same book and sounds helps children develop fluency in reading which is an essential skill. - Maths homework which will be shared on Tapestry every Friday. Please upload their homework via Tapestry once completed. Year 1: Times table rock stars 15 minutes a week: 2x, 5x 10x tables. Read at home at least 3 times a week and record this in their reading diaries. Please ensure books and reading diaries are in their bags daily as we will listen to your child read during the week. Every Friday the children will bring home a library book to promote a love of reading. These books need to be returned to school on Wednesday each week to ensure your child can pick a new book on Friday.