We are kind | We are brave | We are responsible | We are learners

Mount Pleasant Lane Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter

Year 1

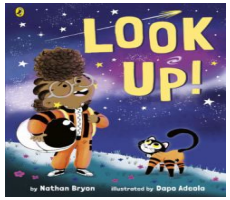
Autumn Term 2 2026



Dear parents and carers,

It has been so lovely to get to know your children! They are really enjoying their learning and ask such inquisitive, thoughtful questions showing our school values. Simialrly, it has been great getting to know you all as well. Please speak to me on the door at morning drop off or afternoon collection times or alternatively, email the school office for a longer conversation. Our learning this half term is full of rich opportunities for extended writing and questioning, so I am sure the children will thoroughly enjoy it.

Ms Seth-Smith

PE days & kit required:	Our PE days are Monday and Thursday. Children need to come to school in their PE kits. Please go to the website to see the PE uniform. Earrings will need to be taken out or taped for PE lessons.
Homework:	Children are expected to read and log their reading at least **4 x per week on Boom Reader**.
Contact us: 	Communication is vital to us supporting the school community effectively. Please speak to your class teacher on the door at drop off or pick up if you have a short query or message. For longer conversations, please email admin@mountpleasant.herts.sch.uk. Please be aware that teachers are teaching throughout the day so will be unable to speak to you immediately.
Our recommended read: 	**Look Up by Nathan Bryon and Dapo Adeola** This is an entertaining story book all about a space loving girl called Rocket. Rocket is excited about the chance to view an upcoming meteor shower, and she wants everyone she meets to be ready to look up and see it. However, her much older brother would much rather look down at his phone. With sibling compromise, the pair have a wonderful time together. Amazon link to the book.

We are kind | We are brave | We are responsible | We are learners

Our theme this half term is: Our School

English:
In Writing, we are going to start our new Talk for Writing unit on 'How to wash a Woolly Mammoth'. In this unit, we are focusing on giving instructions using verbs. We are going to continue to practise using capital letters and full stops in sentences and making sure that our sentences make sense.

Maths:
For Maths, we are going to continue to work on addition and subtraction with 10. During this, we will use concrete resources to support our understanding of part whole models and how to answer a range of addition and subtraction questions within 10.

Phonics:
In phonics, we will continue to use ELS phonics scheme. This term we will continue to look at the phase 5 sounds.

Year 1/Primary 2 Autumn 2: Phase 5					
Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Revise: /or/ <au> /ee/ <ey> /ai/ <a–e> /ee/ <e–e>	Revise: /igh/ <i–e> /oa/ <o–e> /(y)oo/ <u–e> /s/ <c>	/ee/ <y> /or/ <al> (walk) Review week Y1:4	Review week Y1:5	Assess and review week Y1:6	Review week Y1:7
please, once	any, many, again	who, whole	where, two		

Science:
To begin with, we are going to be learning about seasonal change. We will be understanding that there are four seasons, describing and observing changes in the weather and discussing the changes that take place in Autumn. We will then move onto learn about Plants. We will identify, describe and name different plants and their parts.

Computing:
In computing, we will be exploring the world of digital art and its exciting range of creative tools. We will be creating our own paintings, whilst getting inspiration for other artists. We will continue to practise using the trackpad when creating our digital masterpieces!

DT:
In DT, we are going to be exploring 'Stability'. During this unit of learning we will be exploring the stability of structures and making a stable pencil pot for a specific user.



Topic:
In topic, we will be learning about practical locational skills that the children will use throughout their time at MPL. They will use different types of maps, being following routes on a map and giving and following simple directions, and creating and using simple keys.

R.E:
Our big question is 'What gifts might Christians in town have given Jesus if he had been born here instead of Bethlehem?' First, we will think about gifts that are important to us. We will then learn about the Christmas story where we will reflect and decide what gifts would be meaningful for Jesus. We will consider why this gift might be special to them.

Music:
This term, we will be focusing on 'Hey You!' which is an Old School Hip-Hop song. During this unit, we will listen and appraise different songs, learn the difference between pulse, rhythm and pitch and to learn how to rap and enjoy it.

PSHE:
Our Topic is called 'Celebrating Difference'. In this unit of work, we will identify the similarities between people in our class and discuss how to make a new friend. We will also learn to understand what bullying is and think of people we can talk too if we are unhappy.