

English

We'll begin with *The Dinosaur Next Door*, a story filled with mysterious footprints, enormous dinosaurs and an exciting rescue.

The children will explore the characters and events, learn new vocabulary and use story language such as **one day**, **suddenly**, **next** and **finally**. They'll then retell the story and write their own short dinosaur adventure.

Next, we'll become dinosaur experts! Using information books, the children will collect fascinating facts and create their own dinosaur fact files.

We'll finish the half term with dinosaur poetry, playing with repetition, rhythm and exciting sound words such as **stomp**, **crunch**, **swish**, **thud** and **ROAR!**

Phonics and Reading

We'll begin by revisiting the sounds and tricky words learned in Reception before introducing some new Phase 5 sounds, including **ay**, **ou**, **oy** and **ea**.

The children will practise reading longer words and using their phonics confidently in both reading and writing. We'll also enjoy lots of stories, poems and information books together, talking about characters, new words and interesting facts.

How you can help at home:

Share your child's reading book regularly and chat about what you have read. Ask them what happened, which part they enjoyed and what they think might happen next.

Autumn 1: Roaring into Year 1!

Welcome to Year 1! This half term is all about helping the children settle into their new classroom, grow in confidence and get used to their new routines.

We'll be learning through stories, investigations, games and plenty of practical activities, with a brilliant **dinosaur theme** running through lots of our work. Expect fossils, footprints, prehistoric prints and plenty of roaring along the way!



Maths

This half term, we'll be getting to know numbers to 10 **inside and out!**

The children will count, sort and represent numbers in lots of practical ways using objects, pictures, counters and ten frames. We'll investigate how numbers can look different but still have the same value, then explore **one more**, **one less**, **more**, **fewer** and **equal**.

As confidence grows, the children will compare and order numbers, use a number line and meet the symbols **<**, **>** and **=**. There will be plenty of games, challenges and hands-on exploring, with children encouraged to explain not only their answer but **how they know**.

How you can help at home:

Count everyday objects, look for numbers when you are out and about and play quick games such as, "What is one more?" or "Which group has fewer?"



Science

In Science, we'll be learning all about **animals, including humans**.

The children will name and label parts of the human body before putting their five senses to the test through simple investigations.

We'll also explore the animal kingdom, sorting animals into groups such as mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. The children will discover what different animals eat and learn the words **herbivore**, **carnivore** and **omnivore**.

Computing

Our Bee-Bots will be heading off on some exciting journeys!

The children will follow and give simple directions using words such as **forwards**, **backwards**, **left** and **right**. They'll plan routes, test their instructions and make changes when things do not quite go to plan.

They'll also begin to understand that a sequence of instructions is called an **algorithm**.

Religious Education

We'll begin by learning about Harvest and exploring where our food comes from. The children will find out why Christians celebrate Harvest Festival and how Christian charities support people around the world.

We'll also learn about the Jewish harvest festival of **Sukkot** and compare some of its traditions with Christian Harvest celebrations.

Later in the half term, we'll explore the Christian creation story and think about why Christians, Muslims and Hindus believe it is important to care for our wonderful world.

Geography

We'll be putting our map-reading skills to the test as we explore our school and local area.

The children will use maps, atlases and aerial photographs to locate our school and spot familiar features. They'll learn that we live in **England**, which is part of the **United Kingdom**, before creating their own simple maps.

We'll also become playground planners, thinking carefully about what we like about our school grounds and how they could be made even better.



Art

Our Art lessons will be full of colour, texture and prehistoric inspiration!

The children will experiment with printmaking using hands, everyday objects and textured surfaces. They'll create rubbings, mix colours and make patterns inspired by dinosaur skin, fossils, eggs and footprints.

They'll then layer and arrange their favourite prints to create a fantastic prehistoric collage.

PSRHE

We'll talk about the special people who care for us and the different ways they help us feel loved, supported and safe.

The children will explore how families can look different and celebrate the people who are important to them. They'll also identify trusted adults they can speak to whenever something makes them feel worried, unhappy or unsafe.

Our Year 1 Team

Mrs Hughes – Class Teacher

Miss Pemberton – Thursday Teacher

Mrs Green – PPA Cover (Wednesday Afternoon)

Miss Ross & Mr Cahill – Teaching Assistants

P.E.

In PE, we'll be developing the fundamental skills that help us move with confidence.

Through games and challenges, the children will practise running, jumping, throwing, catching and balancing. We'll encourage everyone to have a go, keep trying and feel proud of their progress.

Our PE session will take place every **Monday**. Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on this day.



Music

We'll be finding the beat through songs, chants, movement and percussion.

The children will clap and move to a steady pulse, explore **loud, quiet, high** and **low** sounds and work together to perform simple songs and chants.

Homework and Spellings

In Year 1, children will receive a piece of homework each week. Homework books will be sent home every **Friday** and should be returned by **Wednesday**.

From time to time, we'll also share a small number of spelling words to practise at home. There will **not** be a weekly spelling test. Instead, we'll help children become familiar with these words and encourage them to spell them correctly in their everyday writing, including the Year 1 common exception words.

We're so excited for a happy, busy and dinosaur-filled first half term in Year 1! 🦖 🦕

Please remember, if you have any questions or concerns, our door is always open. You can also contact us using our **new class email address: yearone@croston-pri.lancs.sch.uk**.

