



John Blow Primary School

Head Teacher: Mr Ben Carver

Welcome to Year 1 – 2026/2027

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 1! We hope you all enjoy the summer break and we are very excited about the new academic year starting on Thursday 3rd September 2026.

We had a fantastic **transition week** and it was wonderful getting to know the children. They settled in brilliantly and we saw lots of enthusiasm, curiosity and positive attitudes towards their learning.

During transition week, we enjoyed:

- Exploring our new Year 1 classroom and having adventures in Forest School, where we made clay faces and explored the woodland.
- Working together through fun team-building activities, including solving clues in a treasure hunt, keeping the balls bouncing on the parachute and stopping the balloon from touching the floor.
- Reading stories such as *The Colour Monster*, *The Koala Who Could* and *Only One You*, helping us to understand that everyone is unique, it is okay to have different emotions, and that being brave enough to try new things helps us to learn, grow and become more confident.

Watching the children cheer each other on, celebrate one another's successes and work together so brilliantly throughout the week was a real highlight. Their kindness, teamwork and smiles made the start of our Year 1 journey extra special.

The children had the opportunity to explore their new classroom, meet their new teacher and begin developing the routines and expectations that will help them have a successful year.

Meet Your Teacher

Hello! I'm Miss Rainey, and I am delighted to be teaching Year 1 next year.

I have been teaching for six years and have had the opportunity to work across a range of year groups. I love creating a classroom where every child feels happy, valued and confident, and where learning is fun, exciting and full of opportunities to explore.

Outside of school, I enjoy running, trying delicious food and going on adventures with my puppy, Sonny. I love sharing my interests with the children and encouraging their curiosity, creativity and love of learning. I am really looking forward to getting to know your child and working in partnership with you to support their learning, wellbeing and personal development throughout the year. I can't wait for all the exciting adventures and achievements that lie ahead!

What We Are Learning This Term

English

This term, our main focus will be phonics. We will continue following the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised programme to develop the children's reading and spelling skills.

Alongside our phonics learning, we will enjoy sharing high-quality books, including *The Storm Whale*, *After the Storm*, *One Snowy Night* and *Leaf Thief*, to develop a love of reading and inspire our writing.



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Maths

We will be developing our understanding of:
Place Value, Addition and Subtraction and Shape.

Topic / Wider Curriculum

Our topic next term is:

What is the weather like in the UK?

We will be learning about:

- The different types of weather we experience in the UK.
- The four seasons and how the weather changes throughout the year.
- How weather affects people, plants and animals, and the clothes we wear.

Other subjects we will be exploring include:

- Art - Andy Goldworthy and Environmental Art
- RE – Celebrations and Festivals
- Science - Seasonal Changes: What are the seasons? How do the seasons affect us?
- PE – Control and Coordination

PE Days

Our PE sessions will take place on:

Wednesday and Friday

Please ensure children:

- Come to school wearing the correct PE kit
- Have appropriate footwear
- Remove earrings where possible on PE days

Important Dates and Events

Please make a note of these key dates for this term:

Monday 7th September – Year 1 Phonics Information Session for Parents.

Tuesday 15th September – The Book Bus

Thursday 3rd December – Year 1 and 2 Performance at the Royal Concert Hall

Thursday 10th December (Evening) – Year 1 and 2 Nativity Performance

Friday 11th December (Morning) - Year 1 and 2 Nativity Performance

Date TBC - Trip to Museum of Lincolnshire Life.

Further information about events will be shared through our usual communication channels.

How You Can Support at Home

You can support your child by:

- Reading regularly together
- Practising key number facts/times tables
- Talking about their learning and encouraging curiosity
- Helping them develop independence and organisation



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We are really looking forward to a fantastic year together. Thank you for your continued support — we know that by working together we can help every child achieve their very best.

We can't wait to see all the amazing things **Year 1** will achieve this year!

Best wishes,
Miss Rainey
Year 1