English Activities for Year 1

Reading	**High frequency word reading** (words in the front of reading diaries)
	Check which words your child can read without 'sounding out' and then focus on building sight word fluency with 5 more words at a time.
	Write the words on pieces of paper/post it notes/pieces of card and lay out as flash cards. Keep repeating these and when they are secure add further words. You can play games such as 'snap' or memory by making double sets of the words and asking your child to read each word as they turn them over to make pairs.
	Listen to a story daily. Discuss the story you have shared together. The bookmarks given on parent's evening will help with questioning.
	Oxford Owl has a free e book library with books that you can share with your child and books that they will be able to read to you.
	Share non-fiction books and poetry too!
Phonics and spelling	Look on the school website for phonics check practise sheets. Work on segmenting and blending words.
	Create 'alien' words together by using combinations of initial sounds, consonant clusters and digraphs. Use sound mats on the school website.
	Use Phonics play website to play phonics games (Phases 3,4 and 5)
	Practise spelling high frequency and tricky words. The best approach is 'Look, say, cover, write and check' Write the word for the child to read. The say the word out loud. Cover the word over and then write it down. Check their spelling

	against the correct spelling. This should be repeated several times for each word.
Writing	**A daily journal** Your child should write at least 3 sentences **unaided** about their day or the previous day if writing in the morning. Please **do not** give them sentences to copy as they need to be using their phonics to spell and also applying their high frequency and tricky word knowledge. Encourage them to read back and check what they have written. To further support, mark their work by underlining HF and tricky words that are misspelt. Write the word or words correctly for them underneath the sentences and ask them to write the word correctly 3 times. This is how we mark in school. Please aim to use the school handwriting style and avoid using block capitals or joined handwriting to keep it consistent with their experience in school. We would correct a maximum of 3 in each piece of writing. Please remind your child that each sentence must begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop. **We have been working on writing character descriptions this half term. The suggestions below should encourage your child to apply the skills they have been taught during this unit of work. .** They may want to do a few sentences each day rather than a whole long piece each time. We normally write for around 20 minutes each day after a teaching input and discussion. Please mark in the same way as for the daily journal and encourage the use of capital letters and full stops.

Writing stimuli

Write a description of a character of your choice from a book that you have enjoyed.

Think about……..

What do they look like?   What do they like to do?   How do they behave?
How do they move?   Are they a good character or a bad character?

Remember to include some interesting adjectives and some simile.

Think of a character from a book that you have enjoyed. Write some questions to the character. Remember to start with a question word and end with a question mark.

Who   What   When   Why   Where   How

Create an alien or a new super creature!

Label all its body parts using some super adjectives and simile.

Write a description of your alien or super creature.
Remember to start every sentence with a capital letter and end with a full stop.
Try to use some interesting connectives

and   but   so   because   so that   which

Create a 'wanted' poster for a book character. You need people to look out for your character because they have gone missing!

You will need to describe them very carefully using some interesting adjectives and simile. They will need lots of information so remember to use some connectives to give as much information as possible!