



Year 1 Newsletter

September 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1 and welcome back to another school year. We hope that you and your families have had a relaxing and safe holiday break, ready for the start of the new term.

This newsletter will give you information about some of the things that your child will be learning about during this term. We hope that you find it helpful but please do not hesitate to ask throughout the year if you ever have any concerns or questions.

Religion

Our first topic is called 'In the Beginning'. We will become familiar with and retell a story of Creation from Genesis. The children will be introduced to Laudato Si as well as learning about Psalms and how to pray them.

Below is a list of the key vocabulary we will be using in the topic:

Genesis, myth, adamah, ha 'adam, Yahweh, Priestly, Psalm, Liturgy, Prayer, Synagogue, Rabbi, hymn

Reading

In these first few weeks, every child will be assessed on their phonic and reading knowledge. Once this has been completed your child will receive a Read Write Inc. book based on their awareness and understanding. Whilst this assessment is taking place each child will be given a reading book based on last year along with their reading record. We would like to stress that we do not ask the children to read anymore than a few pages a night, rather than a whole book. Please use the reading record to communicate how your child is getting on and any information that you feel we should know. The children will be assessed at intervals during the year, at which point we will decide if they need to move.



Literacy

This half term, for the first two weeks, the children will look at the book 'Here we are' by Oliver Jeffers.

Once the children have completed their phonic assessments we will be focussing on phoneme/grapheme recognition, reading, writing, working on their letter formation, as well as using capital letters and full stops correctly.

As a class we will share the book 'Grace and Family' by Maru Hoffman and Caroline Binch.

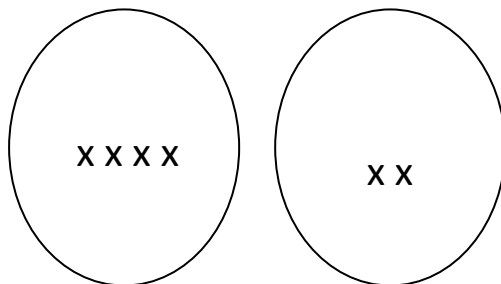
We recommend that you do not look at these books prior to the teaching in school as we reveal the story slowly throughout the term developing the children's skills of comprehension, inference and prediction.

Numeracy

This term we will be reading and writing numbers to 20 and knowing their place value. We will also be looking at number bonds within 10. The children will be working on simple addition and subtraction and learning how to record them. We will also be sharpening children's mental arithmetic skills. Below are examples of typical questions that we will be asking the children in class:

- What number comes before/ after 5?
- What number comes in between 10 and 12?
- I have 10 sweets and I drop 3 of them. How many do I have left?

- Addition using practical methods;



$$4 + 2 = 6$$



Science

Our Science topic this half term is 'Animals, including Humans'. The children will be learning to name the parts of their bodies and explore their different senses.

Geography

Our topic this half term is 'Our Local area'. We will be looking at the different places we have in our local area and why certain shops and amenities are so important. We will also look at where we are in relation to the rest of the world. Through the Literacy book 'Grace and Family' we will also be comparing where we live to the Gambia.

Physical Education

Games

In games we will be looking at developing throwing and catching skills as well as working as a team member. As it is the beginning of the year we will be continuing to work on the children's independence in changing. We would be grateful if you could work on this important skill with your child at home, possibly making it into a game and timing the children. We will be doing this in class too.

Gymnastics

Our topic is travelling. We will be exploring different ways of travelling using apparatus.

Art

Make your mark: The children will be exploring mark making and line; working on experimenting with different materials through observational and collaborative pieces.

RHE

Created and Loved by God. Created and Loved by God explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are created by God out of love and for love, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.



Homework

The children will be given spellings to learn each week, often linked to the sounds we have been learning in class. They will be tested on these words the following Friday.

Most weeks the children will also receive one piece of Numeracy homework. This can be accessed online at home or at the library. You will have received a letter with the website and login details this week.

The children will also receive various research tasks and projects throughout the year. These will reinforce topics that we will be covering in class.

The homework is an opportunity for the children to consolidate work done in class and also an opportunity for you to see their work. We would like the children to complete the work independently and discuss it with you. If your child finds any part of the homework difficult please make a note in their reading record.

General notices

- Both classes will have PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays and therefore the children will need to wear their kits on both of these days. The kit should consist of green shorts, green t-shirt and a green tracksuit. Please ensure that long hair is tied back, particularly on these days and that **earrings are removed** before school.
- Children are now allowed to wear a watch to school from Year 1 upwards. Uniform.
- Year 1 will be going to Forest School. We will inform you via Google Classroom with prior notice. The children will need to ensure they are appropriately dressed for these sessions, layers, long sleeves, long bottoms and appropriate footwear.

We really look forward to working with both you and your child this year. We aim to have a very happy and successful year. As previously mentioned please come and see us if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Duffy, Mrs Kells, Mrs Manning and Mrs Pappalardo