



Year 1 Newsletter

September 2023

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 'Beginning with the Church'. We will be reminded of the disciples, explain the metaphor 'the Body of Christ', look at the seven sacraments and then focus on Baptism.

Below is a list of the key vocabulary we will be using in the topic:
sacrament, initiation, ritual, words, actions and symbols, presbyter, consecration

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 book based on their awareness and understanding. 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.



English/Phonics

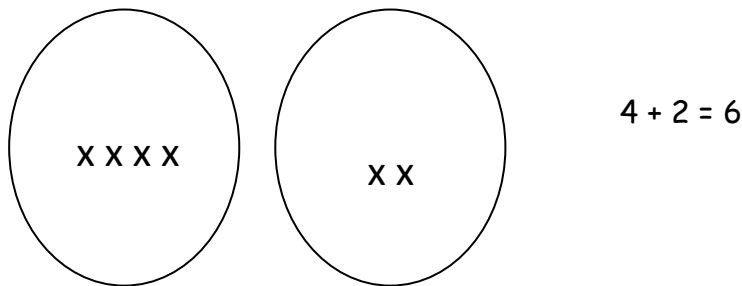
This half term, for the first two weeks, the children will look at the book 'Here we are' by Oliver Jeffers.

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 using the Read Write Inc Phonic scheme.

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;



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 'Weather'. We will look at what the weather is like in our local area.

Physical Education

Games

In games we will be looking at developing throwing and catching skills as well as working as a team member.

Gymnastics

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

Computing

In computing this term children will program a toy to move around a map to find buried treasure. They will start by thinking of algorithms for their routes, then input these as stored programs for the robot. Children will then predict how the robot will move and learn how to debug their programs.

Design and Technology

In class the children will be creating a windmill. They will identify some features that would appeal to the client (a mouse) and create a suitable design. Explain how their design appeals to the mouse. Make stable structures, which will eventually support the turbine, out of card, tape and glue.

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.

Music

Music will be taught each week by Mr Charles-Nelson. The topic is exploring rhythm and pulse.



Homework

The children will be given spellings to learn each week. 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 receive a letter with the website and login details in the coming weeks.

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 and that **earrings are removed** before school.
- 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.
- You will receive Google Classroom login details for your child in the coming weeks which is where all the homework and notices are posted throughout the year.

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 and Miss Anderson (Class Teachers)

Mrs Pizzi-Najada, Mrs Rogers and Mrs Pappalardo (Support Staff)