



# St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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 **ODBE** Oxford Diocesan  
Board of Education

6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you had a wonderful summer break and are delighted to welcome you back to this new academic year. This year promises to be a journey filled with learning, growth, and wonderful experiences. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 1 will be covering for the term and information that you will require.

We have many exciting topics in Year 1 and this term our themes will be 'Amazing Animals' and 'Toy Workshop'. During the first half of the term we will be learning about a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Our 'Toy Workshop' during the second half of the term will focus on how modern day toys are both similar and different to those played with in the past. We will also design and make computer games to develop our understanding of algorithms and instructions.

In **English** we will begin by reading stories with familiar settings, and rhymes with predictable and repetitive patterns including 'Panda Bear, Panda Bear' by Eric Carle. We will be using these stories to inspire us to write imaginative sentences and help us create our own stories. We will also be looking at non-fiction texts and using these to help us practise writing captions and sentences.

In **Mathematics** we will be working through National Curriculum objectives for Year 1, beginning with a focus on number and place value. Lessons will be practical, with a focus initially on number fluency. We will develop our ability to count on and back; sort; use place value; calculate using mathematical symbols and solve mathematical problems.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Animals Including Humans	Games	Teambuilding and Ball Skills
History	Toys through the ages	P.E.	Dance, Health and Wellbeing
Geography	Our Local Area	R.E.	Why do most Christians call God 'Creator'? What do most Christians celebrate together?
Computing	Seesaw Computer Science and Programming	Music	Hey You! Rhythm in the way we walk and Banana Rap
Art	Collage	PSHE	Being Me in My World Celebrating Difference
D.T.	Sliders and Levers		

We will also have the opportunity to walk to the church as part our local area topic in Geography.

Interim Headteacher  
Mrs J Butler BA (Hons) PGCE  
NPQH

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## **Home Learning**

Your child will receive weekly Maths and Spellings tasks. These tasks will be set every Monday and will be due for submission the following Monday. In addition to these, we are introducing a new initiative called the "Buffet of Learning." At the start of each half term, your child will be given a selection of learning opportunities across a variety of subjects. From this, they can choose one task each week to complete and submit by the following Monday.

More detailed information, including the rationale and the submission of tasks, will be provided by Mrs. Butler during the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday 16th September. We strongly encourage you to attend to learn more and ask any questions you may have.

The children's spelling lists correspond with the spelling rules the children are being taught in their English lessons. These spellings are split into 3 groups; Must, Should and Could. All children are expected to learn the 'Must' spellings; they will be directed by the class teacher to learn the 'Should' or 'Could' spellings if they are ready.

Children will continue working on their Numeracy Passport objectives. They will be expected to practise their passport objectives and times tables regularly at home. The children should use their login for Times Table Rockstars to support their fluency and accuracy in a fun way.

Research shows that reading is paramount in children's learning. Please ensure your child has a book to read at home and brings it to school daily. Listening to your child read each day will greatly support their learning and enjoyment. Discuss their books and encourage them to select more challenging texts. We are using paper reading diaries to track daily progress, so it's important that these are in school every day. Your involvement is key to their reading success.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Year 1 are as follows:

1. The Cat in the Hat by Dr Seuss
2. Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
3. Avocado Baby by John Burningham
4. Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers
5. Can't You Sleep Little Bear? by Martin Waddell
6. Beegu by Alexis Deacon
7. Cops and Robbers by Alan and Janet Ahlberg
8. The Bog Baby by Jeanne Willis
9. The Bear and the Piano by David Litchfield
10. Billy's Bucket by Kes Gray
11. Be More Bernard by Simon Phillip and Kate Hindley
12. The Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon by Mini Grey

## **Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)**

Personal social and emotional development (PSED) forms a key part of our curriculum each term. Teaching personal development is vital in many ways. It helps children develop a positive sense of themselves, independence, respect for others, social skills, emotional well-being and a positive disposition to learning. This term your child will be taught about their place in the world and recognising and celebrating differences as part of our PSHE curriculum. In Autumn 2, all children will take place in 'Anti-Bullying week', a week dedicated to sending a clear and positive message that bullying is neither acceptable nor inevitable in our schools and communities.

Finally, across the school, pupils are given the opportunity to perform key roles to both develop their leadership skills and sense of responsibility or teamwork. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups. In Year 1 pupils take on the following whole school roles:

- School council – as voted for by their peers

### **PE and Games**

So we can maximise learning time, children should come to school on their scheduled PE days in their PE kit. PE kits will no longer be kept at school. Year 1's PE days will be a **Wednesday and Thursday**.

### **SEND**

We are committed to removing barriers to enable every child to fulfil their learning potential. We follow the Graduated Approach to supporting additional needs, meaning that the level of support is based upon the needs of the child. We track the progress of each individual closely using our termly assessments, teacher judgement and other resources as necessary, in order to identify a particular child's needs as early as possible. Any support or interventions your child receives will be detailed on the parent evening proformas and, in the case of a child on a SEN plan or EHCP, it will also be listed on their plan. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please talk to the class teacher in the first instance. Should you have further concerns, Mrs Levin, our SENDCo, is always available and can be contacted via the school office. Our school SEND policy and SEND Information report can be found on our school website.

We are looking forward to the year ahead and will provide more details during the 'Meet the Teacher' evening on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. We are committed to enhancing our partnership with you to support your child's development. Please be reminded that we maintain an open-door policy and are readily available to address any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Moss  
Y1 Class Teacher