



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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12th January 2024

Dear Parent,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. It is good to see that all the children have returned to school full of enthusiasm, ready for a hard-working and exciting term ahead. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 1 will be covering this term and information that you will require.

We have many exciting topics in Year 1 and this term there will be two topics called 'Superhumans' and 'Buildings'. During 'Superhumans' we focus on the human body and senses and the story 'Supertato' in English. We have an exciting Senses Curriculum day planned to enhance learning further. During the topic 'Buildings' we focus on homes of the past and materials. We will be going on a trip to Windsor Castle to further develop our learning in this topic.

Our timetable this term will have an English and Mathematics focus during the morning, with foundation subjects taking place during our afternoon lessons.

In **English** we will begin by focusing on story writing, using 'Supertato' by Sue Hendra as inspiration. We will then be looking at poetry, focusing on our senses. This will be followed by instructional texts. We will also write our own stories based on the 3 Little Pigs.

In **Mathematics** we will be working through National Curriculum objectives for Year 1, beginning with a focus on number and place value, moving onto the mental and written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be covering measurement with a focus on length, height, mass and volume.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Human body and Senses & Materials
History	Homes of the Past
Geography	Our Local Area
Computing	Word Processing & Digital Art
Art	Self-Portraits (Frida Kahlo)
DT	Freestanding Structures
PE	Ball skills – Feet and Hands; Gymnastics – body parts and wide/narrow/curled
RE	'Does creation help us understand God?' & 'Should everyone follow Jesus?'
Music	In The Groove & Round and Round
PSHE	Dreams and Goals & Healthy Me

Headteacher
Mrs J Barnett BA (QTS)

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Homework

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This term, homework will be set and submitted on Seesaw. In Year 1 the children will receive the following homework:

English homework and Mathematics homework will be set on a Friday and is expected to be returned by Wednesday

Spellings will also be set on Seesaw and tested in class. These will be given to the children on a Friday with a test the following Friday. The words in the spelling tests link directly to what the children are learning in their ULS Phonics Lessons.

This year, we continue to focus on reading (especially reading for enjoyment) and are looking forward to finding out about what exciting books the children enjoy. Please make sure that the children have a book they are reading at home and can bring to school each day. Continue to listen to your child read daily, as not only will this aid their learning considerably, it will also increase their enjoyment of reading. Discuss the books that they are reading and encourage your child to choose more challenging literature in order to continue their development. We are using paper based reading diaries to record daily reading. It is vital that these are in school every day. **Books will be changed on a Monday and Thursday.**

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

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

PE and Games

The children will need a full, named PE kit (T-Shirt, shorts, socks, plimsolls/trainers). Both classes will have Games and PE on Thursday mornings. Children will be expected to bring in and leave their kits in school for the entire half term. As a reminder, they will be required to wear trainers for outdoor PE.

Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This term as part of our PSHE curriculum, your child will be taught about goal setting and how to set and achieve realistic goals. They will also be talking about their dreams and ambitions, and how to overcome challenges. After the half term break, the focus will switch to being healthy. Pupils will learn about the importance of a healthy diet, keeping clean, regular exercise and keeping themselves safe.

Children will be introduced to, and be asked to reflect on, the following key values through our weekly assembly programme: Courage, Love, Creation, Resilience, Determination, Hope, Friendship and Curiosity. In addition, children will learn about the importance of Easter in the Christian calendar and some of the key Easter traditions.

As always, we will be encouraging the children to think about others and this term, they will be taking part in Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief.

One of the highlights in our Spring Term calendar is our International Week. During this week children across the school have the opportunity to learn about different cultures, countries and traditions. They learn about the importance of respecting and valuing others and that they are part of a bigger world. We usually have a different focus each year for this week and this year our focus will be artists from across the world learning about a given country and its traditional foods.

As well as enhancing their learning on our main topics, the planned trip to Windsor Castle and our senses day will also teach the children respect, citizenship, confidence, and resilience as well as contributing to the development of British values, enriching social and cultural awareness, and fostering inclusive learning.

Finally, across the school, pupils will continue to perform key roles to improve their leadership and / or teamwork skills and also to develop a sense of responsibility. 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

Please keep an eye out on our Social Media pages, or in the half-termly newsletter for details of the above events and also information about additional opportunities that the children at SMAS experience as part of our PSED Curriculum and school vision.

If you ever wish to discuss anything about your child, please make an appointment through the office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Moss, Miss Olive and Miss Piekarska
Y1 Class Teachers