

All Saints' C. of E. Primary School

Rooted in Faith, Growing Through Learning

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Friday 4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful summer holiday and are all ready for a new academic year. It has been wonderful meeting your children and introducing them into their new classroom. They have all settled in very well and we are anticipating an exciting year with lots of learning and fun. The aim of this letter is to outline some of the key aspects of school life in Y1 so you can support your child both at home and at school.

Transition from Reception into Year 1

There will be a transition period at the start of the year, where we will have 'free flow activities' for part of the school day where the children have access to the learning areas including the outdoor area. This is important as it helps the children settle before they ease into a more formal style of learning as the year progresses. During free flow, the children will cover both Reception and KS1 objectives. This will ensure that any gaps in the 'Early Learning Goals' are covered, as well as challenge children who are ready to move on with KS1 objectives.

Phonics and the core subjects of Maths, English will be taught daily.

Our Core Subjects:

Phonics:- We will teach phonics daily and will continue to use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme. We will be revising phase 3 and phase 4 before moving onto phase 5 this term. At the end of the year, the children will be doing the Year 1 National Phonics Screening Check. Children take the test during June in a one-to-one setting with a teacher. It is an informal 'test' that each pupil in England takes to ensure that they have made the expected standard in decoding.

English: The theme for our English learning in Autumn 1 is '**Journeys and Exploration**' where we will be reading '**Naughty Bus**' by Jan Oke and Jerry Oke and later '**Astro Girl**' by Ken Wilson-Max. Using these texts as an anchor we will cover writing outcomes such as sequencing, writing letters, non-chronological reports, writing commands, writing in 'role'. These smaller writing outcomes will support our overall writing outcome of writing our own adventure stories and writing fact files about being an Astronaut.

Maths: We will begin our Mathematics learning by looking at counting and subitising numbers to 10, comparing quantities and measure, and introducing the concepts of 'whole' and 'part'. Later we will look at the composition of numbers and the properties of shape.

Religious Education: Over Autumn term, we will learn about why Jesus told stories, and the importance of the Gospel. We will move on to learn more about our school's name, and finally learn about the Nativity and who is who in this important story.

Our Wider Curriculum

This year, our foundation subjects will be taught in blocks to ensure depth as well as breath. This term, our wider curriculum is centered on the theme '**Me, Myself and I**'. As a class, we will explore who we are, where we live and what inspires us. Our learning is underpinned by **Matthew 22:39. 39:**

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Art: Initially in art, we will be looking at mark making and exploring different uses of 'line', experimenting with a range of media, self-portraits and observational drawings.

History: We will be asking the question 'How am I Making History?' and looking at how we can find out about the past and how key events in history are remembered. We will be comparing what life was like for children in the past to now.

Science: Our science learning is underpinned by the **Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NIV)**

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end."

We will be looking at seasonal changes by learning about the weather, comparing and contrasting seasonal changes such as daylight hours, and observing and recording changes over time.

PSHE: We will be talking about ways we can understand what makes a good friend to both identify this and be one ourselves.

PE: Students will be working on their ball skills and maintain a focus on teamwork skills and sportsmanship.

In the same way as last year, children's P.E kit will stay at home. On their P.E days, they will arrive at school with their P.E kit on. Year 1's P.E days are Wednesday and Thursday. As it gets cooler they will need a pair of track suit trousers for outdoor P.E and a jumper (this could just be school jumper).

Computing: Pupils will be exploring what a computer is and understanding how computers are used in the wider world, they will learn to develop the independence to 'log on' independently and improve their mouse skills through creating shapes and self-portraits.

Music: Pupils will have their music curriculum delivered by Wandsworth Music Service.

Home Learning

Reading - In Year 1 it is crucial that children practice reading regularly both at school and at home. Year 1 will continue to follow the 'Little Wandle' Program which we introduced in Reception. Each week, the children will have:

- A reading practice book that is matched to their phonic stage that they can read **independently**. The children should be able to read this book with little or no decoding. This book helps build the children's confidence and will develop their phonics skills.
- A library book that they can read with you, talk about and enjoy. The children pick out this book themselves so theoretically it should be a book that they are excited about and want to read!

We do not expect your child to read this book independently. However, as the children become more confident with their phonics they may be able to read more of this book with you/ to you!

Homework

All home learning will be posted on Google Classroom, Wednesday, 4pm. Please complete by the following Tuesday.

- Weekly Spellings
- Maths
- Phonics reading book
- Writing

Things to bring in every day:

- A clean, named water bottle
- Reading record and reading book
- Warm clothing when it is cold to enable your child to use the outdoor area comfortably
- On **PE days**, your child should come to school dressed in their PE kit and will stay in it for the day. PE days are: **Wednesday and Thursday**
- **Please note: children do not have an afternoon snack in Year 1 as they transition into KS1. Children are welcome to eat a snack after school when collected or before a club.**

Reminders and Notifications: This will be sent to you through Google Classroom or the class representatives.

The children enjoy daily access to art materials that are essential to their learning. To cover the costs of ingredients for these activities, we would love it if you can bring a voluntary contribution of £15.00 for this term. Your generosity will be much appreciated!

Best Wishes,

Miss Machell (Class Teacher)
Mrs Sharman

Extended Learning Opportunities

If your child would like additional learning opportunities at home, they could complete the following:

English –

- Write a postcard and send/bring it to school if you are away.
- Go on a bus journey and create a poster showing where you went and who came with you.
- Discuss – ‘If you could visit anywhere where would you go and why?’

Please discuss topics with your child, as we learn that prior to writing we must be able to **Think it, Say it, Write it!**

Maths -

- Revisit or complete any of the topics covered this term
- Every time you see a bus tell the person with you the bus number.

Projects linked to this term's topics

Topic

- What sort of toys did your parents and grandparents play with? How are they different to your toys? Learn how to play a game from the past (ie a card game, snakes and ladders) Can you show us in class what game or toy from the past you have learnt to play.

Science

- Go on a seasonal treasure hunt.
- Take a photo of the same tree every month and observe how it changes over the seasons.
- Draw weather symbols and create a – **The Weather Today** is displayed at home using the symbols drawn.