



All Souls' Catholic PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 1 Termly Newsletter Spring 2016

Dear Parents & Carers,

We would like to wish you a Happy New Year and thank you for all the lovely gifts and cards we received at Christmas.

The new term and 2016 has begun in earnest. The children returned refreshed and ready to face the term ahead.

Please see attached form for the Year 1 Spring Curriculum

Phonics:

This term the children have been placed in target phonics groups. Phonics is taught for 30 minutes daily. The children will be taught and assessed on a 6 week cycle. Following assessment the groups will be adjusted according to the children's needs.

Homework:

Homework is a crucial aspect of school life. Homework is set to provide additional purposeful and targeted work for your child, to further enhance learning within school. Homework will come in a range of forms – some weekly, some daily and additional homework which will be given as and when necessary. Your child has a specific homework book, in which they should complete all homework. There is the expectation that the work completed in this book will be to the same standard as that which is completed in school, (please use a pencil).

Home work will be sent home on Friday to be returned the following Wednesday. Spelling will be sent home daily Monday to Thursday. Children will be tested on Friday and you will be informed of their mark.

As we continue in Year 1, I ask for your support to encourage your child's independence. Many children still lose items of uniform, forget to take reading folders home and require help with changing for P.E. These are all essential skills for coping with school life.

Reading:

Reading is both an essential life skill and a vital skill for accessing the school curriculum. I cannot emphasise the importance of listening to your child read on a regular basis enough. Listening to your child read for 5 mins regularly has an enormous effect on their progress. It is evident within the classroom and across all subjects which children are listened to read regularly.

If a child struggles with reading their access to the curriculum is limited. As a class teacher I have put in place several interventions/strategies to help support reading. Autumn term data has highlighted the need for further intervention and support. Please attend the parents reading information evening if you are able.

I know family life can be hectic and demand on time is great. Please speak to us if you need any advice or help with your child's reading. Without sounding too political I know working together we can make a difference for your child.

We are fortunate to work with a lovely group of children, with a diverse range of personalities. Every day in Year 1 is different, the children have grown and matured over the first term. Each day brings challenges and fun. Communication between home and school is essential to achieve the best for your child. If you have any concerns, questions or worries please don't hesitate to contact me in person.

Dates for your diaries.

Wednesday 3rd February 2016 3:30pm – 5pm

Parents Reading Information Evening

Friday 4th March 9:15am Year 1 Mother's Day Assembly

Please check our school web-site weekly newsletters for any additional events that may be added or changed.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs K McGovern & Miss D Fox