



Year 1 Autumn Term

In all things love



Dear Parents and Carers, welcome to Year 1 and the new school year at Holy Family!



Welcome back, we hope you have all had a wonderful summer and made some lovely memories. We know it might seem a very big step from Reception to Year 1, but the children will still have access to a wonderful outdoor space, which is open all day, and the children have lots of time to explore, discover and play, just like when they were in Reception. This will work alongside RE, Phonics, English and Maths sessions in small groups with an adult, as well as challenges that will be set for your child to complete independently.

Religious Education:

Year 1 will start the Autumn term looking at 'Creation and Covenant'. Throughout this topic the children will discuss why and how our world is special, the importance of promises in life and explore the story of Creation. We will then look at 'Prophecy and Promise', in connection with the story of the birth of Jesus, and the role of Mary. Exploring these topics at home will also help support your child's thinking in school. If you have a child friendly bible at home, you could share stories to support your child's understanding in school and I often find that children enjoy watching videos on YouTube – I like Saddleback Kids.

Prayer and Liturgy:

Year 1 will take part in daily worship. Sometimes this will be with the rest of the infants, or school and other times this will take place in class. We are also very lucky that Father David will come in to school and deliver a class mass for each year group!



English:

Reading is one of the main priorities for our Year 1 children. Children will read to an adult in school through one to one and Guided Read sessions. Children should be reading at home as often as possible and we recommend a few pages every evening with discussion to promote enjoyment of reading. We would also like to stress the importance of parents reading to their children (books that they would not necessarily be able to access independently) to further promote a love for reading and develop their vocabulary. Books will be changed once a week and please could they be returned on a Wednesday and they will be changed and sent home again on a Friday.

Linked to reading, we are going to help children develop

their writing through looking at:

- Recounts
- Poetry
- Lists
- Captions
- Labels



There will also be handwriting sessions to support your child in forming their letters correctly.



Maths:

In Maths this term we will be aiming to develop number sense through focussing on:

- Number skills in counting and ordering in order to develop our understanding of place value
- Addition and subtraction within 10 and 20
- Days of the week and months of the year
- Geometry – 2D and 3D Shapes.

Please feel free to practise counting to and from 20 and 50 from any given number – there are lots of fabulous songs on YouTube that will help with this (we sing lots of Jack Hartmann songs in school: <https://www.youtube.com/user/JackHartmann>)

Practising number formation wherever and whenever you can will also help your children in school – this can be in the bath, outside with chalk, in sand or soil – anywhere at all! :)



Science – Everyday Materials:

In our first half term together we will be thinking about 'Splendid Skies' and we will be investigating **Everyday Materials** and their properties in order to think about designing and creating our own kites. Through this unit children learn about the characteristics and uses of a range of common materials and vocabulary for describing and comparing these. The children will investigate and experiment the suitability of common every day materials through scientific questioning and enquiry. After half term we will be looking at **Animals including Humans**, thinking about grouping different animals according to what they eat and what animal kingdom they belong to.



Physical Education

Gymnastics: Balancing, Spinning on points & patches.

Fundamental Movement Skills 1: Negotiating space and increasing control over an object.

Fundamental Movement Skills 2: Demonstrate Agility, Balance, and Co-ordination.

Invasion Games 1: Understanding some principles of attacking & defending.

Please ensure that children come to school in their PE kit on a Tuesday and Thursday. Children should have a school tracksuit, PE top, royal blue shorts and plain black, white or blue trainers. No Earrings on PE days please!

- Computing: I can switch on and log into a computer
- I can use a mouse to click and drag
- I can use a mouse to create a picture
- I can open my work from a file
- I can identify rules to keep us safe and healthy when we are using technology in and beyond the home.

History This term in History the children will be looking at events beyond living memory by exploring the topic Castles! We will look at features of castle, find out when castles were built and order these on a timeline.

Geography This term we will be learning all about settlements. We will know that the United Kingdom consists of four countries, and be able to locate Blackpool on a map. We will understand that we live in a town and what you can find in a town and talk about features in our local area.



Tapestry is used a little differently in Year 1 and you will be given new Tapestry logins - I will inform you when these are sent. This year Tapestry is used to set homework tasks. Each week your child will be given phonics sounds and tricky words to practise as well as a weekly maths task. I hope that you and your child have no difficulty in accessing this and I look forward to seeing all of their work and photos each week. These activities will be linked to those we have looked at over the week and will be given out on a Friday.

We hope that you have found it useful to see the topics that your child will be covering in the Autumn term and are feeling more at ease each day with the new routines in school. We are so looking forward to embarking on this exciting learning journey with you and your children, and are looking forward to a fantastic year!

Could I ask that all parents check that their child's uniform and P.E kit is labelled? This will really help when we are trying to match up jumpers, tracksuit tops and all other items of uniform with the correct children in Year 1.

Please remember that I am only a phone call away if you have any questions, queries or concerns and that my door is always open.

Miss Johnston (class teacher), Mrs. Parker and Miss Baldwin

Don't forget to check our school Facebook page for regular updates! ☺

