**English and Reading**

This term, we will be writing for a range of purposes including; character descriptions, poems that develop vocabulary, retelling of narratives, formal invitations and stories from other cultures.   
In reading, they will explore four fantastic books- Grandad's Island by Benji Davies, The Goose that laid the Golden Eggs from Aesop's Fables, Paddington by Michael Bond and The Christmas Pine by Julia Donaldson.  
**At home:**  
KS1 children receive a new phonics book every **Friday** and this should be read at home **daily.** It must be sent into school every day to allow teachers to listen to them read too and books must be **returned on a Thursday** to allow them to be exchanged ready for Friday. Further children should be reading for pleasure by choosing their own books which they can read themselves or be read to by an adult. We strongly encourage adults to read to their children regularly. Children are welcome to borrow any of the high quality texts from our class library to take home.

**Mathematics**

This term children will cover skills across four key areas of maths; place value (within 20), addition and subtraction (within 20), place value (within 100) and, shape. Further, they will be progressing through the Mastering Number programme specific to their year group.

**At home**: Have a look at some useful links to support maths at home and to further explore the maths coverage for your child.  
  
<https://stbedesdarlington.bhcet.org.uk/curriculum/subjects/maths>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b08bzfnh/numberblocks>

**Welcome to KS1! Please look below to see what your child will be learning in each subject this term.**

**KS1 Autumn Term Focus and Homework**



**History and Geography**

In History we are looking at the significance of Captain Cook, George Stephenson and Dr Nicholas Patrick. **At home:** Research Dr Nicholas Patrick ready to share with the class.

During our Geography lessons, children will identify physical and human features in Darlington, the United Kingdom and even some famous features from other continents. **At home:** Does your child know the street they live in? The town? County? Country? Continent?

**Art and Design Technology**

Children will be developing their drawing skills, creating their own artwork based on 'Waves' by Beth Krommes. Then they will be developing their painting skills after exploring the work of Kandinsky. Both units embrace responding to music in art. **At home:** Have a go at created artwork at home, inspired by these artists.

During our Design & Technology lessons, children will be creating puppets which we will then use to retell stories. **At home:** Encourage children to retell familiar stories at home. They could use teddies or dolls to help them do this.

**RE**

This term, children will cover three units; Beginnings, Baptism and Preparation.

KS1 will be visiting Father Kevin at church on to learn all about baptism.

**At home:** Share pictures and memories from your child's baptism. We would love you to send in any of these pictures too for us to share as a class.

Children will also strengthen their faith through our class Pilgrims of Hope Projects.

Please join us for Family Mass at St Thomas Aquinas Church on 24th November at 10:30.

**Science**

Our science topics are animals (including humans)and earth and space with a focus on the changing seasons.

**At home:** 1) Take pictures of the changes you see as autumn develops and begins to turn to winter. What do you notice? 2) Keep a weather diary for a week. How many types of weather did you observe?

**PE**

This term, children will be developing their gymnastics and dance skills with a particular focus on balance, coordination and core strength. **At home:** Did you know? Primary age children should be active for at least 60 minutes a day. Whilst we ensure at least 30 minutes is happening at school, the other 30 minutes should be happening at home. This could be through dancing and playing in the house, getting out for a dog walk, walking to school or attending a sports club.

**Computing**

As part of the computing curriculum, learners will develop their understanding of what information technology (IT) is and will begin to identify examples. They will discuss where they have seen IT in school and beyond, in settings such as shops, hospitals, and libraries. Learners will then investigate how IT improves our world, and they will learn about the importance of using IT responsibly. **At home:** Check out the Childnet website for digital safety information. <https://www.childnet.com/resources/parents-and-carers>

**Music**

Pulse, rhythm and pitch is our focus this term which the children will use to perform music of their own.

**At home**: Here is a fun game to explore rhythm at home. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zfkvdnb/articles/zfhc239>

**RSE/PSHE**

Children will complete unit ‘Created and Loved by God’ which explores the individual mind, body and health.   
**At home:** Remember you can access the parent portal at [https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/](https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/life-to-the-full-primary/u-2/) to see what your child is learning as well as suggested home activities.