

St. William of York Catholic Primary School

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Friday 2nd May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term! I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter. It has been lovely to see the children return to school, full of enthusiasm and putting such effort onto their learning. It is the time of year that that I enjoy seeing how far the children have come since starting Year 1, they deserve to be proud of themselves.

This term, Year 1's topics are *All Aboard* and *Our Island Home*. The children will be learning about transport with a focus on boats. After Half Term, we will focus on coastal life and the sea. In Science our focus is on Plants and Trees and in Geography we have started to find out about the seven continents and will move on to focus on the U.K. See the Topic Web for more details.

Homework will continue to be set via the Purple Mash homework blog. There will be reading, spelling and Mathletics set every Friday. Please do take the time to support your child's learning by completing the activities. On the blog, I outline some of the learning the children cover each week. I know some children are not very forthcoming when asked what they are doing in school so it provides a good opportunity to keep updated.

This term, Year 1 will have PE lessons on Wednesdays and Thursdays, so please continue to bring PE kits in on Monday and they will be returned for washing, on Thursdays. As the weather gets warmer it is all the more important to name sweatshirts, as the children take them off more and they are easily mixed up.

I will continue to teach Year 1 on Monday to Thursday and Miss Oakley will be teaching on Fridays. We have Mr Kane supporting in class and working with small groups.

I am often asked how best to support children at home. This term we will be focussing on the key skills needed by the end of Year 1 and the best thing you can do is support these areas. These will be to learn all the speed sounds (Set 1,2 and 3) and to sound out unknown words using them (we call it Fred Talk). In June your child will take part in a phonics screening check which is designed to see if the children can decode to an age appropriate level. There is nothing specific you need to do in preparation but I am happy to provide some phonics practise sheets if you would like to support at home. Handwriting is a priority, so you could spend short but frequent sessions supporting letter formations and handwriting, especially if this is a particular area of development for your child. This term we will focus on the writing of sentences, including capitals and full stops and the basic components of a sentence e.g. words, nouns, verbs. In Maths, keep going with number bonds! In addition, we will focus on counting to 100 and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Keep using Numbots, little and often, to aid number fluency. As always, all children are expected to read every day and they should bring their book packs in on Thursday to give us a chance to change them over for taking home on Friday.

Thank you all for your continued support. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on gmeara@swoy.lewisham.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Gabrielle Meara

Class Teacher
St William of Yor

English

This term the children will continue to work through the Read, Write, Inc phonics programme. Year 1 will study texts related to our topics. We will be reading 'Where the Wild Things Are', 'The Owl and the Pussycat', 'The Secret of Black Rock' and 'The Snail and the Whale'.

Using these texts as a stimulus, the children will develop their composition skills with a focus on planning and writing sentences which make sense and can be re-read. Year 1 will learn the alphabet and start to name letters as well as using the sounds. Children will focus on letter formation, joining letters and correct sizing in Handwriting.

Maths

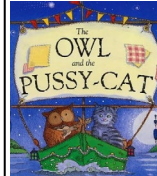
In Maths, children will be developing fluency with numbers to 100. For example, counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, halves and doubles and numbers bonds. They will start to learn the concept of multiplication and division, using pictures and objects. Later they will start to find fractions of shapes, objects and quantities. Again, we will use pictorial and concrete representations and will focus on halves and quarters. Year 1 will learn vocabulary related to position and direction. They will learn to tell the time to the hour and half past the hour and to understand language related to dates (days of the week, months and years).

Geography

This term we will learn about the seven continents and five oceans. The children will learn how diverse the landscapes and climate can be. They will locate the north and south poles and equator. Later on, we will focus on the UK. This will include finding out about the countries and landmarks of the UK as well as its flag.



Year 1 Summer 2025



Topic:
All Aboard
Our Island Home



Teacher:
Gabrielle Meara

Art and DT

This term the children will explore working in 3D. In the latter part of term, the focus will be on collage and creating multi-media images related to the sea creatures and the sea itself. Year 1 will continue to develop drawing and observational skills. The focus artists for the summer term are *JMW Turner* and *Henri Matisse*.

Science

Our summer term topic is 'Plants'. The children will identify the parts of plants and trees as well as learning some types of wild and garden flowers.

They will develop scientific skills through observing and drawing plants and flowers and will look at some of the changes that occur during growth.

ICT

This term, children will use Purple Mash software to learn basic coding. They will continue to develop typing skills.

PE

Children will participate in indoor and outdoor PE sessions which will focus on covering a range of physical skills and techniques. Outdoor PE will focus on Tennis skills. They will also take part in basic Yoga sessions where they will learn some simple breathing techniques as well as have fun creating a variety of postures.

RE

This term we will be looking at the theme of Holy Days with a focus on Ascension Day and Pentecost. The children will look at how the Holy Spirit is represented and how it helps us. Later we will explore the topic of Reconciliation, making amends and saying sorry.

PSHE & RSE

Our themes for this term start with 'treating people well' and 'saying sorry'. We will also explore 'Who is my neighbour?' and the 'communities we live in'.