



St Mary's CE Primary School

'Nurturing Success'



Information for Parents and Carers Year 1 Spring 2026

Theme: Island Adventures and Home Comforts

Hello and welcome to the spring term! We hope the children have had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break and are fully refreshed and ready for our busy spring term. We have lots of exciting activities planned and we hope that the following information will be useful in helping you to support your child in his or her work both at school and at home. If you would like any further information about what your child is learning about, please speak to a member of the Year 1 team.

Please continue to listen to your child read at home every night if possible using their individual reading record to communicate pages read (this action supports with the changing of books). A list of Year One common exception words, that children are expected to be able to read and spell at the end of the summer term, can be found in the centre of individual reading records. A visual phonics sheet to support with sounding out when reading can also be found. Arithmetic homework will continue to be sent out on a Friday for a test on the following Friday. Spelling homework will continue to be sent out on a Friday for a test on the following Friday. New spelling lists will be sent home on Fridays and new Spelling Shed games will be posted on the same day.

Bug Club, Spelling Shed and Numbots offer online support and extension for classroom learning. Log in details can be found on the front of your child's reading record.

Planning is based on the requirements of the National Curriculum and the locally agreed syllabus for religious education.

English

This term the children will continue to develop their writing skills, focusing on sentence writing, including question sentences. Children will further develop their understanding and use of compound words e.g. lighthouse, and will be encouraged to use these in their independent writing.

The children's writing will be inspired by the stories: *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*, *The Gruffalo* and *Sharing a Shell*. We will also be using non-fiction books to extend the children's learning.

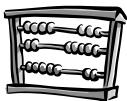


The children will participate in regular reading, shared reading and daily phonics sessions. Teaching correct letter formation and handwriting will continue to be a central focus of all written work.

Reading books will be continued to be changed twice in the week whenever possible. Each week the children will also choose a library book to share with you at home. Please send your children to school with their reading book every day in case it is needed for individual reading.

Mathematics

This term the children will continue to develop their number skills by working with larger numbers and extending their knowledge of counting, ordering, place value and sequencing. Children will further develop their skills in solving problems linked to addition and subtraction and we will begin to also look at simple multiplication and division.



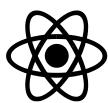
We will continue to use the government approved Maths – No Problem textbooks and workbooks in order to support and record their learning. In addition to the daily maths lesson, the children will also continue to take part in an arithmetic lesson on a Friday morning when they will play games and learn key facts before completing a short test.

The children will also have the opportunity to develop their directional language vocabulary through links with geography.

Science

In science the children will be investigating different types of everyday materials. They will make

observations of common objects and will have the opportunity to develop their literacy skills by using adjectives to describe the properties of materials e.g. hard, soft. The children will be able to name common materials; describe changes in shape to materials; sort materials into groups and suggest how to test materials. For example, they will investigate which type of materials have properties that keep objects waterproof.



Computing



The children will continue to develop their computing skills including e-safety and core skills. Our two units of work are: *We are painters* and *We are collectors*. The children will be using painting apps to create, edit and save electronic pictures linked to story work (The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch). In the *We are collectors* unit the children will collect, label, sort and display images using presentation software. The activities will use both laptops and ipads.



Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

We place great importance on speaking and listening throughout the curriculum in Year 1. The children will be encouraged to participate in 'Circle Times' to discuss and listen to each other's thoughts and feelings. Children will learn about relationships thinking about feelings and emotions as well as valuing differences. They will also be taking part in Class Council meetings to allow them the opportunity to share their ideas and thoughts on whole school issues. Their ideas will be discussed during School Council meetings. In the second part of the term children will looking at and asking - *What is a good relationship?*



Religious Education

For the first part of the term the children will develop understanding about *belonging* with a focus on Hinduism and the meaning of the Aum (Om) symbol. Later in the term the children will learn about Easter using the guidance from the locally agreed RE syllabus.



Art and Design

Using our topic as a basis for our creative work, the children will be looking at the book *The Gruffalo* to develop ideas to develop and apply collage skills. The story *Sharing a Shell* will provide the focus for modelling work using clay.



Music

The children will be exploring rhythm this term with two different music topics, 'Round and Round'. Learning will include appraising pieces of music and transcribing compositions.



Physical Education

Children will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of how to lead an active and healthy life. The children will begin the term with gymnastics before moving on to Dance fitness. Please ensure that your child continues to come to school on a Tuesday wearing their PE kit. Please could tape be provided to cover earrings whilst children participate in P.E. To ensure children are active for more than 30 minutes per day outside of P.E lessons, they will take part in the 'Daily Mile' or other fitness activities.



Geography



This term we will learn to use locational and directional language. We will be looking at how to understand various maps and the symbols used. This will link to our local area and also to our topic. The children will have the opportunity to use a compass and navigate the area within Beverley, as well as looking for human and physical features during a local learning walk.

Design and Technology

This term the children will be looking at cooking and nutrition where they will master practical skills to assemble ingredients and measure using cups. They will follow and make a recipe linked to the theme of *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*.



Thank you for taking the time to read this information.