



St Sebastian's Primary School Newsletter

Yearly Newsletter

Koala Class: Year 1

Welcome to Year 1!

I am delighted to welcome you and your child to Year 1 – an exciting and important step in your child's learning journey. This year marks the transition from the Early Years Foundation Stage to the more structured Key Stage 1 curriculum. In Year 1, your child will continue to build confidence in reading, writing and maths while exploring a broad and engaging curriculum that includes science, history, geography, art, PE and so much more. Our nurturing and inclusive classroom environment supports every child to flourish, encouraging independence, curiosity and a love of learning. I look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure your child has a happy, successful and memorable year.

Mrs Copson



What's happening in Autumn Term?

We will be welcoming all the children into Year 1 as the brand new Koala class and I can't wait to find out lots about them and to see them flourish as the year progresses. Alongside phonics, we have some wonderful learning opportunities ahead of us including reading and writing in the style of traditional stories and making jam sandwiches to follow a set of instructions. In maths we will be exploring numbers up to 20 including addition and subtraction, We will be finding out about our village of Great Gonerby, looking at the different seasons and exploring how toys have changed over time as well as making some puppets of our own. Look out for any invites for parents and carers to come in and help. Christianity will be our topic for RE plus some interactive computing and PE sessions. All the learning we cover in Year 1 can be found on the school website.

What's happening in Spring Term?

A we start the new year we will continue with phonics, addition and subtraction and widening our knowledge of great Gonerby to learning more about the UK. Maybe even having afternoon tea!

Our RE will change to learning about Islam, more designing and making of toys and keeping warmer inside with gymnastics, yoga and dance in PE. Our music will link beautifully with the fairy tales done last term and in science we will be exploring animals including humans. The spring term is a great opportunity for the children to further develop their skills in becoming more structured with their learning, starting to recall learning that's already taken place and to further deepen and embed their knowledge. All children will be nurtured and fully supported in this to ensure they are reaching their full potential.

What's happening in Summer Term?

During the summer term we will be discovering all about plants and animals in science, finding out more about our world and what seaside holidays were like in the past. This will include a trip to the seaside ourselves. We will continue with PE, music, art and DT as well as exploring places of worship in RE. The summer term also involves lots of exciting activities like sports day and preparing to move on to Year 2. This term will see the children flourishing and settled into a more independent way of working. All the learning covered will prepare the children for the next part of their school journey, making connections and building on skills in order to progress further and become the best they can be.

PE

Our PE days are on a **Wednesday** and **Thursday**. Children are to bring their PE kit in and get changed at school.

We have two new exciting topics to explore every half term enabling the children to further develop their skills.



Rewards



Our reward systems allow the children to achieve individually and as a class. The class credit award is an afternoon treat in school and there are values points to collect individually for showing the school values and for following the school rules.

Reading

Children will bring home two books each week. One of these will be a book to share together and the other will be a book that your child can read independently. The book your child can read independently will be the book that they have read in school that week, reading it again at home will help to improve their fluency and boost their confidence. It is important to talk about the story using the pictures and to ask lots of open ended questions about what is happening as this supports the development of many early reading skills. We ask that children keep their books in their book bags and bring them into school each day. We also ask that you try to read with your child daily, we appreciate that this isn't always possible but the more often your child practices reading the more fluent and confident they will become. When you do hear your child read, please could you leave a brief comment in their reading diary.



Homework

Every half term there will be a homework grid. There are 6 activities and the idea is that the children present one of them in class every 2 weeks. If they would like to do all of the activities then that is also welcomed. Please support your child in these as it's a precious way of connecting while learning.

The most important homework that you could do is to support your child with their phonics and listen to them read.

Sort your toys into groups.	Create a picture of your favourite toy.	Who is in your family?
You can decide how you sort them, e.g. size and old or wheels and no wheels or which material they are made from.	Create a picture of your favourite toy using pencils, paint, coloured pencils or pens or even collage.	Can you draw a picture of you and your family? Think of who you live with as well as extended family. You could also draw you and your friends.
You could take a photograph of your sorting or write your results in a diagram.	Describe your favourite character from a traditional tale.	Draw a building or place that you like to go to in Great Gonerley or Gillingham.
Imagine going to visit the Three Bears in their cottage in the woods.	Create a picture or model of your favourite character from: The Gingerbread Man, Cinderella, The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, Hansel and Gretel, Sleeping Beauty, Goldilocks and the Three Bears or any other traditional tale.	This could be school, church, shops, parks, houses, cafe etc.
If Goldilocks went to visit the Three Bears in the autumn, what would the woods look like? Draw a picture or describe in words what the signs of autumn are?	Choose words to describe what this look like or what they are like.	What do you like about it?

Phonics/Spelling

We use the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds scheme to teach phonics. Parent information is available on the following link.. [For parents | Letters and Sounds](https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk)

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk>

Children will each have a phonics home learning book that is updated weekly with newly learned sounds and words to practice reading.



We will also be learning the Year 1 common exception words which can be found online, on the school website and in your child's reading diary.

Website *Link to class page*

Our website contains a wealth of information that you may find helpful.

On your child's class page, you can find:

- Homework grids
- Knowledge organisers
- Photo updates
- Spellings

On our main website, you can find information about our:

- Policies and reports
- Term dates
- Newsletters
- School information
- School meals
- SEND

Click to follow us on Facebook!

