



Autumn Term 2020



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1!

We hope you have had a lovely summer and are looking forward to the year ahead. We have had a lovely couple of days getting to know all your children and are so pleased with how quickly they are settling in.

This year we will be picking up from where the children left off in March, giving them all a chance to really build up their confidence and feel secure in Year 1. We follow a creative curriculum, linking our topic work into different areas of the curriculum. Our topics this term is The Jolly Postman, which links to lots of different fairy tales, and then after half term we will be finding out all about Dinosaurs.

Playtime

There is no need to provide a snack for your child. Healthy school snacks will be provided by the school and will be given out at playtime. Children should, however, bring in a named water bottle containing water only, so they are able to have a drink as and when they need one.

In Year 1 there will be formal teaching sessions every day, but there will also be many opportunities to continue to learn and develop through play. This will be the children's discovery time and follows on from their reception experience ensuring they are all secure in meeting their Early Learning Goals before moving on to the Key Stage 1 curriculum.

Children will need to bring their book bags in to school every day, as children may read with an adult more than once a week. The children will read weekly to the class teacher during grouped guided reading in class and individually with reading helpers, but children should also be reading their books at home every day to help build their confidence and enjoyment for reading. Please record this in their Reading Record notebook so we know if the books have been read and need to be changed.

Target Cards

Target cards for maths, reading, writing and science will be sent out in a named plastic wallet every other Wednesday and **MUST** be returned the following morning (Thursday). Just a gentle reminder that, as this is such an important document, **school policy is that if they are not returned on time, they will not be sent home again.**

Phonics

There is a big emphasis on phonic teaching in Year 1, this is taught daily through lots of fun and games. You will probably hear lots of talk about Geraldine the Giraffe helping find sounds! This all helps to prepare the children for the National phonic screening in June. The children will be bringing home phonics booklets, which we encourage you to do with them for just five minutes every day. They can also enjoy practising their phonics using the website www.phonicsplay.co.uk. For more information about how we teach phonics, please see the St Edmund's school website page: <https://www.st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Phonics-presentation-to-parents.pdf>

PE

It is essential that the children have the correct PE kit in school. Their PE kits can be kept in the classroom for the term and will be taken home at the end of each half term. This ensures the children do not forget to bring their kit in to school. The PE kit needed for school is as follows: 1 red polo shirt, 1 navy pair of shorts, 1 pair of navy or black tracksuit bottoms (optional for winter), 1 pair of trainers for outdoor PE and for doing the daily mile each day. Please make sure all these items are clearly named. PE will be on a Thursday.

Name labels

With 21 children in Year 1, we are sure you will understand that it is essential that all of their belongings are clearly labelled with their names, including coats, jumpers, book bags, lunchboxes, drink bottles, PE kit and trainers.

Spare clothes

Please make sure that your child has a spare pair of pants and socks in their PE bags, in case of accidents. We would also be grateful if each child could bring a box of tissues in as you can appreciate, we get an awful lot of runny noses!

We hope this information is useful. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have questions at any time, either with a quick question at the school gate or you can contact us via the class email address: class1@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Mrs Sylvester- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Mrs Harris- Thursday, Friday

Teaching assistant- Miss Selby

