

Welcome to Year 1



Miss Cregan – Class teacher,

Mrs Judge – HLTA

Year 1 is a bit different to the Reception Year at school; there is a lot to fit into the year and the teaching is starting to become more formal. As with all schools, we aim to make the transition as easy as possible for your child with the start of year including some play based activities alongside more formal learning. Hopefully the following information will help you to understand what happens in Year 1.



What to expect

Arriving at school and the morning routine.

In Year 1 we encourage the children to develop independent skills by and looking after their belongings.

The children will be greeted at the classroom door and they will be expected to hang up their coat on their allocated peg. Take their reading folder out of their book bag, put it away in a labelled box and then put their book bag in their own personal drawer. Their water bottle needs to go in the water bottle tray. Next they will sit at their table with a white board and pen ready to complete the 'Early morning challenge'.

It is important that the children arrive on time to register and that they don't miss the *Early Work* that has been set for them to do.

Miss Cregan will be standing at the classroom door from 8.40am so if you have any messages that you wish to pass on do so then alternatively you can catch her at the end of the day. If you wish to discuss something in greater depth please make an appointment at the school office.

Lunches

It is really important that the children know what they are having for lunch each day; packed lunch, school dinner or the option of a baked potato with cheese/beans/tuna. Please discuss this with your child.

Uniform and other items

Please ensure all uniform (including, coats and shoes) plus water bottles and book bags, is labelled clearly with your child's name.

P.E bags can be left in school and will be sent home each half term unless we have got particularly muddy or soaking wet during a lesson.



Reading

In Year 1 the children will be given a reading book appropriate to their ability. This might be a phonics book, a reading scheme book or a picture book from the book corner that they can share with you at home. At St Lawrence we do not have one set reading scheme to follow; we use a variety of books from a range of schemes and non-scheme books. We will help your child to choose a book appropriate to their reading ability. They can change their book whenever they have finished reading it but we ask that you record this in their reading diary and write a short comment.

In Year 1 each child reads at least twice a week to an adult. They will read to Miss Cregan every week in a guided group reading session and will be heard individually by either Miss Cregan or an adult helper.

How you can support your child's reading at home

Please hear your child read as often as possible. The children will have key words stuck in their reading diaries (where appropriate) so please practise reading these as often as possible too.

Read a variety of stories as well as non-fiction texts to your child.

Guided Reading

The children will take part in guided reading every day. This is a chance for them to read to an adult or take part in some independent reading activities.

Library

The children can choose a book from the library to take home. Our library day is Monday.



Phonics

The children have a daily phonics session in which they are introduced to new sounds and practise sounds previously learned. To teach phonics, we use a variety of methods and resources including 'Storytime Phonics' and 'Letters and Sounds'. At the end of Year 1 all children enter the National Phonics Screening test.

Writing

The children will continue to practise correct letter formation and will be encouraged to join their letters as soon as they are ready.

Writing in Year 1 takes place daily.

Spelling

In Year 1 the children will take home a list of spellings to learn every **Friday**. These will be a mixture of words including the sounds we are learning that week plus some common/high frequency words. There will be a test the following **Thursday**. Please make sure they have their spelling book in school every Thursday.

With this information sheet you will also find a list of common exception words that all Year 1 children are expected to be able to spell by the end of the year.

Maths

We aim to make maths as fun and as practical as possible. The National Curriculum is challenging so we appreciate your support in reinforcing and practising concepts at home.

Areas you can practise at home are:

- Telling the time (by the end of Year 1 the children are expected to know o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past).
- Recognising coin values and adding small amounts together.
- Naming and describing 2d and 3d shapes.
- Counting objects – count toy cars, soft toys, number of Lego bricks used in a tower etc.
- Counting up to 100
- Writing numbers to 20 in words and figures.
- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s – this can be practised when counting money.
- Measure height. Use scales to weigh cooking ingredients.



Please remember to be positive at all times. Make it into a game if possible. Don't pursue any area where your child is clearly uncomfortable.

Homework

English / maths

An English/maths task based on work we are completing in class.

Family Challenges

Children will be expected to complete 1 challenge per week. There will be a range of tasks allowing pupils to choose a way of presenting their home learning.

Reading

Please read regularly with your child – 10 minutes every school night is ideal.

Spelling

Practise weekly spellings

What does an average day in Year 1 look like?

The mornings usually follow the same timetable of maths and English activities. The afternoon sessions vary from day to day and half term to half term. We take on a half termly topic so our science, history or geography, design technology, art and music usually relate to the topic. Other subject areas including computing, R.E, Personal Social, Health, Emotional and Citizenship education (PSHE&C) and P.E. are taught every week as discrete subjects.

All sessions include focused, adult-led tasks and independent tasks. There are opportunities for role play, free writing, sand or water play and small world and construction activities.

Here is an example of a day in Year 1:

8.40am – Classroom doors open. Registration and Early Morning work.

9.00am – Guided Reading, individual reading and grammar activities

9.30am – Collective Worship

9.45am – English

10.30am – Playtime

10.45am - Maths

11.55am – Phonics Year 1/ Grammar Year 2

12.00 – 1.00pm - Lunchtime

1.00pm – Register

Topic lesson (which might be science, history, geography, art or DT based).

2.15-2.30pm **Playtime**

2.30pm – Music

3.15pm – Hometime



We will have PE twice a week on a Thursday and Friday afternoon.

I hope this information is useful. Please ask if you are unsure of anything.

Sounds we will be learning in phonics sessions

ai	wait	ph	phone
ay	stay	ar	car
a-e	cake	oy	boy
ea	break	oi	soil
ee	sheep	er	river
ea	beach	ur	nurse
y	silly	ir	first
igh	night	aw	claw
ie	lie	or	for
i-e	five	au	August
ow	blow	ll	well
oa	goat	ff	puff
o-e	bone	zz	buzz
oo	room	th	thank
ew	chew	sh	fish
ue	true	ch	church
u-e	June	air	hair
ow	clown	ear	bear
ou	sound	are	dare

Year 1 common exception words

The children are expected to be able to spell these by the end of the year.

a	has	of
are	he	once
ask	here	one
be	his	our
by	house	pull
come	I	push
full	is	put
friend	love	said
do	me	says
go	my	school
where	no	she
were	to	so
you	today	some
your	was	the
they	we	there