

Autumn Term - Year 1



Welcome to Year 1 - We hope everyone enjoyed their summer and managed to keep everyone amused during the long break! We have plenty of things happening in this autumn term so we thought we would keep everyone up-to-date with our plans.

READING AND SPELLINGS

Your child should bring home 2 reading books and their diary every night and it would be appreciated if you could spend 10 minutes listening to them and making a brief comment or signing it. It is vital that your child spends time reading aloud to another adult to help encourage them to sound out letters and letter blends correctly and also to begin reading with some expression.

Please could reading books and diaries be kept inside the plastic book bag - we will change books on Mondays but it is vital that books and diaries are in school everyday. Additionally, your child will also bring home words to learn which they will be tested on with an adult. Again, it is very important the children spend time learning these words as not only will it aid their reading but it is a step towards them also spelling these words in independent writing. Spelling books will come home on a Monday but **only** need to be returned on Friday.

BARNABY BEAR OUR 'GOOD FRIEND' BEAR.

We would like to introduce Barnaby Bear to you all! Each weekend we will ask a child to bring Barnaby home as a treat for being a really good friend, celebrating our half-termly value and showing wonderful manners throughout the week. Feel free to include him in any activities you do during that time. He is more than happy to join in with anything you do - swimming lessons, visiting Grandma, going to Tesco's...but there is no expectation for you to report back to us - it is simply a special treat for your child!



LISTENING LOLA

Your child will probably remember taking part in 'Listening Lola' activities when they were in Reception. In Year 1, each child will be given the chance to take Lola home for the weekend as a reward for good listening in class. Lola has her own special diary to accompany her for your child to record with photographs, words and pictures any activities they have done together. We then share this news with the class on Monday mornings.



P.E KIT, SWEATSHIRTS and WATER.

Please make sure P.E kit (named) is in all week for our lessons which will take place on a Monday. Each child is allowed to bring a bottle of water (with a lid on!!) to drink throughout the day and this can be left in the classroom. It would also be appreciated if all sweatshirts could be named as this will save many arguments after playtime and P.E!

SWIMMING

We are offering swimming lessons to all children in Year 1 and Year 2. The lessons will take place on a Thursday afternoon and begin on Thursday 13th September, running for a total of 6 weeks. Before the summer holidays we sent home an additional letter containing all the details and a slip which informs us of your child's ability in the water - if you have not yet done so, please fill this in carefully and return it by Friday 7th September.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

As you know, we now have a very successful school website which is a great place for parents to find information about the school and upcoming events and it is also a valuable resource full of links to educational games and activities for the children. We will regularly update our class page with photos and comments about what your child has been doing in school as well as posting information about topics we are covering. We will also put copies of all the letters and spelling sheets we send home - just in case your copy gets lost! www.st-laurenceprimary.com

AUTUMN TERM TOPICS

This half term is main topic is 'All About Me' and in science we will be learning about our senses. In the second half term we will be learning about 'Famous Events and People' and looking at 'Light and Dark' in science. For more information and to see what we will be covering in each subject, please have a look at our topic webs on the school website.

HELP!

Finally, if anyone has any spare time and would like to join us in school to listen to children read, change reading books, help with art activities or even any classroom jobs - we would really appreciate the help. Please speak to one of us to arrange a time which is suitable to you if you are available.

Thank You

Anna Langford
Emma Cheadle

