

# Year One Class Newsletter

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Welcome back to a new year at St Peter's!

It is so lovely to welcome the children and families back to school this year!

I have put together this newsletter to inform you of important information you may wish to know for the first half term of the new school year.

If you have any other questions, you can contact me by:

- A conversation after school on a **Monday, Tuesday or Friday.**
  - Class Dojo—after school up until 4.30pm
- Telephone—please call school to arrange a telephone conversation (0121 464 6921)

We can't wait for the year ahead and hope you and your child feel the same!

## Curriculum

Your child will be learning lots of new knowledge and will thrive on the experiences that will take place in an exciting learning environment. Each week, they will take part in lessons such as History, Geography, Music, Art and many more, all designed to build on their prior learning and skills.

This half term, in Geography, we are focusing on where we live, location and direction, how to use and read a map and the four points of a compass. In Science, we are exploring the human body and using our mouths, ears, noses, eyes, and hands to investigate our five senses and understand why

## Class Dojo

Keep a look out on Class Dojo for posts about what we are up to!

Also keep up to date on our school X (Twitter) page!



## Number Bonds

This half term we are focussing on number bonds to 10 and 20. We would appreciate any help from home in learning these facts.

| Number bonds to 20                                                                  |         |                                                                                       |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|  | 1 + 19  |  | 19 + 1  |
|  | 2 + 18  |  | 18 + 2  |
|  | 3 + 17  |  | 17 + 3  |
|  | 4 + 16  |  | 16 + 4  |
|  | 5 + 15  |  | 15 + 5  |
|  | 6 + 14  |  | 14 + 6  |
|  | 7 + 13  |  | 13 + 7  |
|  | 8 + 12  |  | 12 + 8  |
|  | 9 + 11  |  | 11 + 9  |
|  | 10 + 10 |  | 10 + 10 |

## PE

Your child must come to school in their PE kit on their named PE day.  
Your child's PE day is

**Wednesday**

### A full PE kit is:

plain white t-shirt  
black or navy joggers or shorts (small logo)  
black or white trainers (velcro) or school pumps.

A school jumper or cardigan must also be worn on this day.



Please ensure your child's name is clearly labelled on

## Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a labelled water bottle to school **every day**.  
Labelling helps avoid mix-ups with other children's bottles. The bottle will be sent home each day to be cleaned.



## Reading Books

A fundamental element of the curriculum is reading. Your child will receive reading books each week to take home. We encourage you to read these books with your child more than once, as this helps them become familiar with new words and deepens their understanding of the story.

We aim to change books more than once a week; however, this may not always be possible, so we kindly ask for your understanding. We do our very best to ensure your child's book is



## Phonics

Throughout Year One, we focus heavily on developing children's phonetic knowledge, as it is vital in supporting their reading and writing abilities. If you would like advice on supporting your child with their phonics at home, please send me a message via Class Dojo. Alternatively, I have listed below some free phonics websites that will be beneficial for your child's learning at home:

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com>

<https://www.education.com/games/phonics/>

## Handwriting

We will continue using cursive handwriting and teaching children how to write using this method. Cursive handwriting is where children learn to lead into each letter with a flick and finish with a flick, ready to join.

Children's books will look slightly different, as the lines inside are printed to support this style of

## Labelling Clothing

Please ensure that all of your child's clothing and belongings are clearly labelled with their name. This helps us return any misplaced items quickly and avoids confusion. Labels on coats, hats and jumpers can save a lot of time searching!

## Maths

This term, we will be revisiting our knowledge of numbers to 10 and using this understanding to double and halve numbers, as well as to represent and use comparative language. We will also explore addition and subtraction strategies for these numbers, using a range of concrete, pictorial and abstract resources to support learning.

## English

In English, our main focus will be ensuring that children can write simple sentences using capital letters and full stops.

We will also continue to develop pre-cursive handwriting, supporting children as they become more confident with this style of writing.

## RE

Our first unit of RE focuses on the Creation story and all the wonderful things God made when the world was created. We will be using this story to express our gratitude for the beautiful things in the world and thinking about what we can do to ensure the world remains a beautiful place to live.

## Science

This half term, pupils are looking at the Human Body and developing their understanding of the five senses and their associated body parts. Discussion and learning will also be based around the importance of taking care of your body, including healthy eating, exercise, cleanliness and rest.

## PE

In PE, children will be building on their multi-skills with a particular focus on throwing and catching. We will be practicing both underarm and overarm throws, using a target to build on our accuracy as well as throwing at a distance.

## Music

This term, we will explore the musical concept of beat or pulse — the steady heartbeat of music — through listening, marching and moving. The children will compare the sounds of different instruments and use their bodies to create rhythms. Children will also learn the difference between a steady beat and rhythm, practising layering rhythms over a pulse to create their own class marching music.

## Geography

This term, children will focus on spatial awareness and basic map skills. They will work with maps of the classroom and school to recognise titles, keys, symbols and compass points. We will also explore what an aerial view is and why it is useful.

## Computing

Year One's introduction to Computing will focus on developing an understanding of technology and how it can help in everyday life. Children will become familiar with the different parts of a computer while building their keyboard and mouse skills. We will also discuss how to use technology safely and sensibly.

## Art

This term in Art, we will be learning about colour. The children will explore how colours can be described as primary, secondary, warm, and cool. We will compare the warm colours in Van Gogh's *Sunflowers* with the cool colours in Bruegel's paintings. Children will practise colour mixing, investigate how to make colours lighter and darker, and use different shades of blue with rough brushstrokes to create a choppy seascape in the style of Monet.

## PRE

In PRE, our topic is *Our World*. We will think about how we can be responsible members of our community, celebrate our differences and understand the difference between making a good choice and a not-so-good choice.