



St. Mary's Primary School Primary 1 learning leaflet - Term 1



Reading: Children have been listening to the first set of stories in Oxford Reading Tree (ORT) and been introduced to the characters. With the first set of books, we focus on meeting the characters and ask lots of questions about what has happened in the story. Children can share their opinions about the story, make predictions and relate themes to their own lives.



Writing: Children write for enjoyment in a range of play, imaginative and real contexts. They will use different writing materials to form letters, numbers and words. We encourage children to “have a go” at writing where they can experiment with mark making and then ‘read’ their story back. We have ‘Free Writing Friday’ sessions where children are given a set amount of time to write / draw whatever they like.



Phonics: We are following the Literacy Rich and Jolly Phonics programme. Children are introduced to new sounds each week and are engaged in follow up activities to support learning. They will learn letters sounds, begin to blend sounds together to make words and recognise common words. Direct teaching is used to introduce and revise letters, followed by interactive games, activities and learning through play to immerse children in the phonics progression.



Talking and Listening: We are focusing on quality talking and listening in Primary 1. Children are encouraged to look at the person who is talking, sitting still, staying quiet and listening to all the words. Children will learn how to ask a question about what is being talked about and know how to answer appropriately. We use opportunities for children to talk to the whole class using their own work as a stimulus (eg. Free Writing Friday, pieces of writing, drawings etc.) This really helps build children’s confidence and self-esteem. Circle Time games and ‘check ins’ also give children talking and listening experiences.



Children are working with numbers from 0 -10 and been learning to count using one-one correspondence. They have been learning to recite, read, write and order numbers to 10. We will understand and use vocabulary such as more or less, in between and before and after. We will have daily opportunities to use different equipment and resources, play number and counting games and ICT to support learning. We will continue to look at colour and explore and create a range of patterns, including symmetrical patterns.



Interdisciplinary Learning: Our topic this term is “**All about me**” and this will lead on to “**My Family**”. Through this topic, children will learn: how I look, how my body works, changes in me since birth, my senses, my school, my local community and my family. They will talk about their favourite things,

likes and dislikes and will be involved in lots of expressive arts and health and well-being activities to support this learning.



R.E. Children have been learning daily prayers and know that when we pray, we are talking to God. They can bless themselves and join their hands when praying. Children have listened to some Bible stories and they will learn that God gave us all talents and that we are all unique. They will learn that Jesus' mother is Mary, and she mother of us all. They will understand that churches (and altars) are sacred and special places to worship. They will find out about the different places they belong.



Science: This term we will be focusing on living things. We will observe/discuss some characteristics of living things e.g. growth, movement, feeding and simple life cycles. We will say why some animals live where they do - food, water, heat. We will also grow our own flowers and observe how they change from seed to plant.



French: We are very lucky to have our French friend Camembear in class who can speak French. We will learn short greetings, numbers to 10, colours and days of the week. **Spanish:** We have Spanish every week with Mrs Blair.



P.E. is with our specialist, Mrs McMaster, and with Mrs Gaffney every alternate Wednesday. We will learn to throw, catch and bounce a ball as well as learning to run, hop, jump and skip. We will use different equipment and develop balance and control, as well as our fine and gross motor skills.



Music: We will have Music alternate weeks with Mrs Keenan and Mrs Nichol, the specialist teachers. We will learn to use their voices expressively; sad, happy, high, low, quiet. We will learn to keep a steady beat by clapping and tapping feet. We will listen to various pieces of music and describe what they hear eg. fairy music, sad music, happy music etc.



ICT: Throughout the term we will have lots of opportunities to use ICT to enhance our learning experiences and skills. We will make daily use of the Smartboard, netbooks and laptops in class.



Ethos & Life of the School: All children will be part of a School Committee and will have a role in improving our school. We will also have a representative on the Pupil Learning Council where our views will be heard.



A gentle reminder to please ensure all of your child's belongings have their name labelled, including: school bags, lunch boxes, water bottles and all school clothes. Thank you very much for your continued support.

