

Kingfisher Class (Year 1 and 2)- Curriculum letter for parents- Spring Term

Dear Parents,

Welcome back- I hope that you've had a restful Christmas break and are looking forward to the term ahead.

Further information on the subjects and the content that we will be studying this term can be found within the curriculum maps below, as well as the more general day-to-day running of the class.

We are including a copy of our timetable for this term so that you are all aware of our day-to-day lessons and learning.

	09:00-09:30	09:30-10:00	10:10-11:00	11:15-12:00	12:00-13:15	13:15-14:00	14:00-14:45	14:45-15:15		
MON	Worship	Reading	S	Maths	B	Y1 Phonics	L	Writing	Y1 Science	
						Y2 SPaG			Y2 Reading	Y2 Science
TUES	Maths	N	Worship	Reading	R	Y1 Phonics	U	Writing	Art/ DT	PE (or continuation with Art/DT)
						Y2 SPaG				
WED	Worship	Reading	A	Maths	E	Y1 Phonics	N	Writing	RE	PE
						Y2 SPaG				
THURS (EH PPA pm)	Worship	Reading	C	Maths	A	Y1 Phonics	C	Geography/ History	Music	PSHE
						Y2 SPaG				
FRI	Handwriting Y1	Maths (or PE with Matt)	Reading	K	Y1 Phonics	H	Writing	Computing	Worship	
	Handwriting Y2				Y2 SPaG					Y2 Reading

Staff

Mrs. Gooding will be supporting teaching and learning in the class through her role as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant, supporting the children's learning every morning and afternoon.

Miss Honeyborne will be absent on a Thursday afternoon for planning, preparation and assessment time. During this period of time, Mrs. Gooding will be in teaching the class Geography/ History, Music and PSHE each week.

If you wish to contact Miss Honeyborne then please email her using the following email address: ehoneyborne@st-lawrence.dgat.org.uk. Urgent messages should however be passed through the school office. If you wish to have a more detailed conversation, then it is best to arrange a telephone appointment through the school office for before or after the school day.

Reading

We will continue to send home two reading books a week. These will consist of a 'choice book' which the children may independently choose from a selection of high-quality, age-appropriate texts in our classroom. The second will be a carefully-selected, levelled book.

The levelled reading book, will be appropriately pitched for your child to read with around 90-95% word-reading accuracy. These will be sent home on a **Friday**. We ask that your child read this book to you, with some support if necessary.

There are some pre-reading tasks detailed within the front of many of these books, which are really useful to discuss prior to beginning the book, as well as initiating discussions about the author, illustrator, genre, whether the book is fiction or non-fiction, and the text type (such as a narrative, report, poem, explanation etc.). These discussions are **as important as** the reading of the text, encouraging the children to think carefully about what they are reading and to make connections with prior reading and their own life experiences.

It is advisable that children read each levelled book **three times**- once to practise their 'word reading' skills, then to develop intonation and expression and finally to be able to answer comprehension-based questions to show their understanding of what they have read.

It is also valuable for children to have the opportunity to listen to, and discuss, a wide range of stories and texts, helping them to develop their 'reading comprehension' skills and understanding of intonation and expression. As such, a second book each week will be chosen by the children from a selection of texts from our classroom bookcase. These will be sent home on a **Monday** for you to share with them. Once the book is returned, your child will be able to choose a new one.

Parents often ask about recommendations for suitable texts for Year 1 and 2 children. A great source detailing a range of high-quality texts can be found using the following links:

<https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year1>

<https://www.thereaderteacher.com/year2>

This collection includes some classics and is often being updated to include new releases too with a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry to ensure that there is something to appeal to all.

PE

We continue to ask that the children come to school dressed in their PE kit on PE days, wearing a royal blue t-shirt and plain, dark shorts, or equivalent jogging bottoms as we continue through the winter months. It is advisable that children keep at least one spare pair of socks and their trainers in school so that they have an additional pair of shoes to change into if they get wet at break, lunch or within PE sessions.

Children should not wear jewellery on PE days (every Tuesday and either a Wednesday or Friday). If your child has earrings, they will need to be able to take them out themselves or if not possible, they will need a supply of plasters or micropore tape that they can apply to cover them. Long hair should also be tied back.

The class will have Matt, our school Sports Coach, once every fortnight to deliver a Games lesson. Within weeks when the class have a session with Matt, they will be required to wear PE kit on a Tuesday and Friday. In weeks when we do not have a session with Matt, the children will need to be dressed in their PE kit on Tuesdays and Wednesday.

Matt will be teaching Kingfisher Class on the following dates:

Friday 9th January, Friday 23rd January, Friday 6th February, Friday 27th February, Friday 13th March and Friday 27th March

Community Volunteers

We are keen to welcome volunteers into school to listen to the children read. This would be a huge help within our school community and any offer of help is gratefully received. If you feel that you, or someone within the local community, may be able to help, then please get in touch with Miss Honeyborne so that appropriate paperwork and organisation may be arranged.

Additional Points

Inhalers and EpiPens-If your child has an inhaler or EpiPen, please ensure that they have one in school and that their name is labelled on it clearly. A care plan will also need to be completed/updated.

Packed Lunches- A gentle reminder that we are a nut and seed-free school, with a number of members within our school community having severe allergies to these. We ask that these foods are not brought to school, including products made using these foods like pesto and seeded bread.

Water bottles- It is essential that children come to school every day with a water bottle. We encourage this to be filled with water and not squash.

Many thanks,

Miss Honeyborne and Mrs Gooding

St Lawrence CE Primary School

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PE (Gymnastics)

We will continue on from last term's work in Gymnastics, exploring new jumps, rolls and balances whilst creating longer and more complex sequences.

PE (Games)

We will be practising accurate underarm throwing and controlled catching with a partner. We will create targets at different heights, move into space after passing, and work with a variety of equipment.

English- Writing

Our writing this term is based on *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson. Through practical experiences and focused sentence-level work, the children will build vocabulary, explore character feelings and develop descriptive techniques.

English- Reading

We will be reading *Diary of a Killer Cat* by Anne Fine. The children will use the story to develop key reading skills, including making inferences about characters, predicting what might happen next and sequencing or summarising events.

Computing

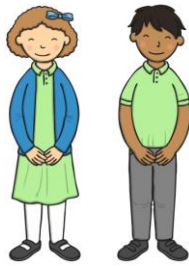
We will explore how to create music using digital software, listening to different pieces and describing how the music makes us feel. We will learn about rhythms, patterns, notes and tempo and experiment with building our own short compositions.

PSHE

We will discuss how to keep ourselves safe and healthy. We will explore the sensible use of medicines, how to recognise safe and unsafe situations, and who to ask for help. We will also learn to notice when something feels uncomfortable, understand which touches are okay or not and know to tell a trusted adult if a secret or situation doesn't feel right.

Year 1 and 2

Spring Term 1: 2025-26



Geography

We will explore the seven continents of the world, learning to locate each one on a map and identify a country within it. We will discover key features and characteristics of countries such as France, China, Australia, Kenya, the USA, Brazil and Antarctica, comparing landscapes, climates and human features as we build a broader understanding of our world.

Year 1 Phonics

We will study the following graphemes:

a (acorn), ey (they), ea (great), igh (weight), a (father), e (he), i (find), y (by), o (go), a (was), u (push), u (music), ch (school), ch (chef), ea (head), or (world), ear (learn), ou (soup), oul (shoulder), ie (brief), ve (have), y (gym), are (care), ere (there), ear (pear) and tch (catch)

Year 2 Spelling

The children will be working on key spelling patterns (including different l endings, homophones and common exception words) and learning when to double consonants before adding suffixes.

Year 1 Science

We will learn about Materials, exploring the difference between an object and the material it is made from. The children will identify and name everyday materials such as wood, plastic, glass, metal, water and rock, and describe their physical properties. They will then compare and group materials based on these properties.

Year 2 Science

We will explore a range of habitats, learning how different environments support different animals and how changes like pollution or deforestation can put wildlife at risk. We will also investigate rainforests, oceans and polar regions, finishing the unit by creating our own model habitat.

Music

In our Spring term unit titled 'Glockenspiel Music World', we will develop our musical skills by playing and singing from memory, exploring up to three notes with good sound and posture and listening carefully to improve our work.

RE

We will explore the question, 'How do Muslim beliefs affect life at home and in the community?' We will learn about key items found in a Muslim home, how Muslim families welcome new babies, and how Muslim communities share a strong sense of belonging.

Maths

The focus for this term will be:

Continuing with our work on **Place Value within 100**

Addition and Subtraction (within 100)- Recalling related facts, identifying 1 more or 1 less as well as adding and subtracting ones and tens.

Art

Our Art unit is inspired by the work of Wassily Kandinsky. We will explore how Kandinsky used colour, shape and music to express feelings. We will experiment with mixing colours, creating tints and tones, and drawing shapes in response to music just as he did. We will then develop our ideas into a composed painting, reflecting on how Kandinsky's style influences our own artwork.

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PE (Net and Wall Games)

We will develop core skills such as throwing, catching, side galloping and striking a ball with increasing accuracy. We will begin using simple tactics in net and wall games to outwit an opponent.

PE (Dance)

We will create travelling patterns and pathways using different stimuli, learning to select effective movements, remembering and repeating sequences and improving our work over time.

English- Writing

We will continue with our work on the Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark, using the writing features from term 3 to plan and write our own short narratives about a hedgehog's journey towards feeling confident in the dark.

English- Reading

We will be reading 'Anna Hibiscus' by Atinuke this term. Through this warm and engaging story, the children will continue to develop key reading skills, including exploring new vocabulary, explaining their thinking and summarising events. This will help deepen their understanding while enjoying a rich, culturally diverse text.

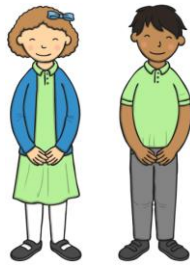
Computing

We will learn the basics of programming using Bee-Bots, practising giving clear instructions, spotting similarities and differences in commands, and making predictions about what will happen. We will also begin designing simple algorithms and learn how to break tasks down into smaller steps.

PSHE

We will be learning how to get along with others, manage big feelings and make safe, kind choices. We will explore playing games fairly, learn about saving for something special, and discover simple ways we can all help care for our environment.

Year 1 and 2 Spring Term 2: 2025-26



Geography

We will explore where Kenya is in the world by locating Africa and Kenya on a map. We will learn about Kenya's climate, landscapes, wildlife and national parks, as well as the Maasai people and their culture. We will also compare our own daily lives with those of children in Kenya, noticing similarities and differences between the two countries.

Year 1 Phonics

We will study the following graphemes: o (brother), g (gem), ge (fridge), dge (bridge), st (listen), ce (fence), se (house), gn (sign), kn (knee), wr (wrap), mb (lamb), se (cheese), ze (freeze), eer (cheer), ere (here), ti (patient) and ti (-tion/ station)

Year 2 Spelling

We will focus on key spelling and grammar skills, starting with using apostrophes correctly. They will then learn how to drop the final 'e' when adding a range of suffixes, including -ing, -ed, -er, -y and -est. Later in the term, they will explore -tion word endings and revisit important Common Exception Words. Through regular practice and review, the children will build confidence and accuracy in their spelling.

Year 1 Science

In our second unit on Materials, we will apply our learning to explore how materials are used in practical and creative ways. The children will design a structure strong enough to withstand wind, considering strength and stability and create a waterproof structure. They will also investigate the uses of different materials and why each one is suitable for a particular purpose.

Year 2 Science

We will learn about what animals and humans need to survive, including food, water and shelter. They will explore what makes a healthy, balanced diet and why eating the right foods is important. The children will also investigate how exercise affects the body and learn about the importance of good hygiene for staying healthy.

Music

We will copy, improvise and compose simple rhythms and melodies, learn key elements of music such as pulse, rhythm and pitch, recognise orchestral instruments, and grow in confidence as we prepare for a final performance.

RE

We will explore the question, 'Why does Easter matter to Christians, and how do people celebrate it?' We will learn what the events of Holy Week show Christians about Jesus, and how these beliefs shape Easter celebrations. We will discover how Easter is marked in churches and homes locally in Gloucestershire, as well as how Christians around the world celebrate in different ways.

Maths

The focus for this term will be:

Continuing with our work on **Addition and Subtraction (within 100)**

Multiplication and Division- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, recognising equal groups and making arrays to represent multiplication number sentences.

DT

We will be investigating a range of vehicles, exploring their uses and the features that make them work. We will look closely at wheels, axles and chassis before designing a vehicle of our own. We will then make a vehicle following our design plan and later evaluate our finished product, thinking about what worked well and what we might improve next time.