

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

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 1 and 2.

We hope you have had a restful summer and are looking forward to an exciting new school year. 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.

	09:00-09:45	9:45-10	10-10:45	10:45-11	11	11:15-12:00	12:00-13:15	13:15-14:00	14:00-14:45	14:45-15:15
MON (No TG pm)	Writing	S	Maths	Worship	B	Y1 Phonics Y2 SPaG	L Y2 Reading	PSHE	Science	
TUES (EH PPA pm)	Writing	N	Maths	Worship	R	Y1 Phonics Y2 SPaG	U Y2 Reading	Geography/ History		Music
WED	Writing	A	Maths	Worship	E	Y1 Phonics Y2 SPaG	N Y2 Reading	Art/ DT		PE
THURS (No TG pm)	Writing	C	Maths	Worship	A	Y1 Phonics Y2 SPaG	C Y2 Reading	PE		Handwriting Reading
FRI	Writing	K	Maths	Handwriting	K	Y1 Phonics Y2 SPaG	H Y2 Reading	RE	Computing	Worship

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 two afternoons a week.

Miss Honeyborne will be absent on a Tuesday afternoon for planning, preparation and assessment time. During this period of time, Mrs. Gooding will be in teaching the class Geography/ History and Music 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 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 enter into 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 Wednesday and Thursday). 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.

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.

Phonics Parent Meet

We have arranged a parent drop-in session on Wednesday 16th September at 3:00pm to share how we teach early reading and writing through our phonics lessons. We kindly ask parents and carers to meet at the school office before the session begins.

During the session, we will explain how our phonics programme works, how the levelled reading books are matched to your child's learning, and how these support progress in reading. You will also have the opportunity to look at some of the resources we use in school and ask any questions you may have.

All Year 1 parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. If you are unable to join us, please do not worry. We would be happy to discuss the key information with you at a mutually convenient time.

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. Please ensure that this is filled with water and not squash.

Snacks- Free snacks are provided to children in Key Stage One, so we ask that children are not given snacks from home.

Many thanks,

Miss Honeyborne and Mrs Gooding

St Lawrence CE Primary School

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PE (Games)

We will develop our throwing and catching skills through a range of games and activities. We will practise rolling, throwing and catching a ball in different ways, helping us to improve our coordination, control and teamwork skills.

PE (Dance)

We will explore how we can use our bodies imaginatively to 'tell a story' about the seaside.

English

Using *Old Bear* by Jane Hissey as our inspiration, we will explore the characters, setting and events of the story through discussion, drama and vocabulary activities. We will learn how to plan, sequence and write our own simple narrative, creating a flip book with a clear opening, build-up, problem and ending. We will focus on retelling a story and developing our understanding of narrative writing.

In our second writing unit, we will continue to explore *Old Bear* through role play, speaking and listening activities and vocabulary development. We will write messages from the perspective of characters in the story, learning how to organise our ideas, explain events and express feelings. This will introduce children to a simple letter-style text, written for a clear purpose and audience.

Computing

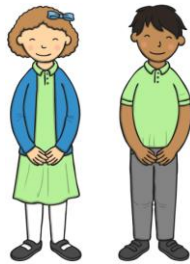
We will study a unit titled 'Computer Systems and Networks', identifying uses and benefits of IT in the world and learning about how to use it safely in different ways.

PSHE

Our topic for the term is titled 'Me and My Relationships' and we will look closely at how our actions can affect those around us. This includes a look at bullying, feelings and friendship.

Year 1 and 2

Autumn Term 1: 2026-27



Geography

We will explore our local area through map work and fieldwork. We will learn how to use aerial maps, compass directions, symbols and keys, identify human and physical features and create our own maps. We will also compare our local area with the Atlas Mountains, exploring similarities, differences and what daily life might be like in each location.

Year 1 Phonics

We will be revisiting our Phase 3 phonics learning, including the early digraphs and trigraphs.

Year 2 Spelling

We will revisit our learning of alternative spellings from Year 1, as well as studying new sound-letter correspondences such as oor for the 'or' sound, il for 'l' and Year 2 common words such as because.

Science

We will study the topic of Uses of Everyday Materials, building on our prior learning about materials, objects and their properties. Through a range of practical investigations, we will explore the strength, flexibility and suitability of different materials, discovering how materials can be stretched, bent, twisted and squashed. We will learn how scientists and inventors, including Charles Macintosh and John McAdam, used their understanding of materials to create innovations that continue to impact our everyday lives.

Music

We will learn and perform a range of songs, including harvest songs, while developing our understanding of pulse, rhythm and pitch. We will practise keeping a steady beat, explore simple rhythmic patterns using long and short sounds, and create melodic patterns using high and low notes.

RE

We will explore the question 'What is it like to be brought up as a Christian?' We will discuss the stories of the Lost Son and the Lost Sheep, comparing the meanings of each parable and exploring how these teachings are reflected in Christians' practices and behaviours.

Year 1 Maths

For Mathematics this term, we will develop our understanding of place value within 10 by counting, comparing and ordering numbers, and finding one more and one less. We will then learn about addition and subtraction within 10, using number bonds, part-whole models and number lines to solve calculations and simple problems.

Year 2 Maths

For Mathematics this term, we will develop our understanding of place value to 100 by counting, comparing, ordering and partitioning numbers, as well as counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10. We will then focus on addition and subtraction, using number facts, number bonds and mental strategies to solve calculations, including crossing tens and finding 10 more or 10 less than a number.

Art

We will be exploring the work of Clare Youngs' collages. This will involve studying her work, collecting examples of mark-making and testing techniques before making our own 3D lion models.

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PE (Dance)

We will be learning dance sequences for our Nativity.

English

Using Rapunzel by Bethan Woollvin as our inspiration, we will explore the characters, setting and events of a traditional tale through discussion, drama and vocabulary activities. We will learn how to plan, sequence and write our own traditional tale, creating a narrative with a clear opening, build-up, problem and ending.

In our second writing unit, we will continue to use Rapunzel as a stimulus for writing. We will learn how to write clear instructions, gathering ideas through role play and exploring the features of instructional texts. Children will organise and sequence instructions carefully, learning how to write for a clear purpose and audience.

Computing

We will study a unit titled 'Digital Photography'. This will include taking photos with an iPad and considering the orientation, lighting and effects that may be used. We will also suggest what makes a good photo and learn about real photos and others that have potentially been changed.

PSHE

Our topic is about 'Valuing Difference' and we will explore what makes us who we are, discuss our special people and what we could do when someone is feeling left out.

Year 1 and 2

Autumn Term 2: 2026-27



History

We will study The Victorians, learning about Queen Victoria and what life was like during the Victorian era. We will explore how Victorian children lived and learned, discover what seaside holidays were like, and compare life in Victorian times with life today, including the differences between rich and poor families.

Year 1 Phonics

We will study the following graphemes:
ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, wh, ph, ew and oe

Year 2 Spelling

We will study a selection of alternative spellings including 'zh' spelt s or si, 'h' spelled wh and 'or' spelled a or al, as well as learning about a variety of homophones.

Science

We will study Living Things and Their Habitats, learning how to identify whether something is living, dead or has never been alive. We will explore a variety of habitats and microhabitats, investigate what animals need to survive, and design our own suitable microhabitats. We will also learn about food chains and discover how living things depend on one another for food and survival.

Music

We will use our Music lessons for the term to practise the songs for our Nativity.

RE

We will explore the question 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' The unit includes learning about the nativity story, how Christians celebrate Christmas in Gloucestershire and around the world and discussing whether Christmas should be considered for Christians or for everyone.

Year 1 Maths

For Mathematics this term, we will continue to develop our place value and addition and subtraction skills within 20, learning to compare and order numbers, find one more and one less, and solve missing number problems. We will also explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning to recognise, sort and describe them, while creating and investigating shape patterns.

Year 2 Maths

For Mathematics this term, we will continue to develop our addition and subtraction skills, using number facts and mental strategies to solve calculations and missing number problems. We will also explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning to identify and describe their properties and study money, including counting coins and notes, comparing amounts and finding change in real-life contexts.

DT

We will be making puppets, studying a range of puppets available on the market and identifying their features. We will then practise sewing using a runner stitch and/or overstitch to join two pieces of fabric together before designing and making our own glove puppet.