



English Martyrs Primary School
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www.englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk

Headteacher: Miss B Nugent

12th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year One

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back after the summer break and I hope that your child has settled well into his/her new class.

This letter is to let you know about the expectations for your child now they are in Year One and how you can support your child with their learning.

The adults in Year One are: Mrs Briggs (class teacher) and Mrs Donn (teaching assistant).

During the course of this year the curriculum your child will be covering in Year One is as follows:

English

In English this term we are focussing on books relating to our topic of 'All About Me'.

The class will be studying the traditional tale 'The Gingerbread Man' to support their work in English this half term. We are going to be writing character descriptions, narratives and persuasive texts. There is going to be a lot of focus on capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in our writing. The children will also be expected to form their lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place and taking care with holding a pencil comfortably and correctly.

When reading for different purposes, and in order to become fluent and effective readers your child needs to:

- Read aloud for others and themselves
- Read phonetically decodable words.
- Blend sounds in unfamiliar words.
- Retell key stories orally using narrative language.
- Talk about the main characters within a well-known story.
- Learn some poems and rhymes by heart.
- Check that their reading makes sense and go back to correct it when it doesn't.
- Make predictions about the events in the text.

Not only is it essential for your child to read each day for at least 10 minutes, but also to have adults at home address the aforementioned key points above with them while listening to them read.

Maths

During the year, not only are children expected to consolidate their understanding of number and mental arithmetic with particular focus on addition and subtraction within 20 and beyond but they will also be expected to be able to apply this knowledge through reasoning and problem solving.

Our topics this term:

Number

- Recognise numbers as words
- Count on from any number
- Count on and back in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s from any given number up to 10, 20, 50 then 100.
- Write all numbers in words to 20.
- Say the number that is one more or one less than a number within 100.
- Recall all pairs of addition and subtraction number bonds to 10 then 20.
- Add and subtract 1-digit and 2-digit numbers to 20, including zero.
- Know the signs + - =.
- Write number sentences
- Fact families - addition facts
- Number bonds within 10
- Part-whole model

Geometry

- Recognise and can name the 2D shapes: circle, triangle, square and rectangle.
- Recognise and can name the 3D shapes: cuboid, pyramid, sphere.
- Name the days of the week and months of the year.

Religious Education

The children will be following the RE scheme 'The Way the Truth and the Life'. During the Autumn term they will study two topics. In the first topic 'God's Great Plan' the children will know and understand about the love and care of the world. They will learn that God's love is unconditional.

In the second topic 'Mary, the Mother of God', they will develop their understanding of the Christmas Story and will hear and learn stories relating to Mary - our most gracious saint.

Topic

Our topic this half- term is 'All About Me'. Please see curriculum outline attached.

It is vital that all children arrive to school and are collected on time. This is to ensure all children are entering and exiting school safely. School begins at 8:50am.

Uniform

Please ensure children are correctly dressed for school. A full list of the school uniform is available at:

<https://www.englishmartyrs.towerhamlets.sch.uk>

Please ensure that all clothing is labelled with their name as this allows your child to find any lost clothing.

Physical Education

PE is on Tuesdays. Please ensure your child has a correct kit. Your child will need a white t-shirt, navy shorts and black trainers. Failure to do so will result in a letter home as in some cases, children will not be able to participate in the lesson without the correct uniform.

Home-Learning

All children will be given two reading books

- 1 x decodable reading book which is matched to their phonic level
- 1 x book which is for 'reading for pleasure'

It is expected that children will read every night (10 mins). Please bring book bags to school every day. They will have a reading record with their reading book. Please sign and date their reading record every night, once your child has read their book.

Reading books will be changed once per week. Once your child can read their book fluently and can understand what they are reading, they are able to request for their book to be changed.

Maths homework

This year, we will be trialling Maths homework books in place of Mathletics. Our Maths coordinator will monitor the impact of this very closely as we aim to encourage reducing children's screen time. Your child will receive a workbook to take home with clear instructions of the pages to complete. This work will correspond closely with the topic being studied in class. Please do not exceed the pages requested to complete, as this is the year's homework book. Upper KS2 may occasionally receive additional homework.

RE homework will be set every half term. This half term we will be researching our class saint.

Year One Phonics Check: In June 2023 all children in Year One will take part in the Phonics Screening Check. The check is used to see how well your child can use the phonics skills they've learned up to the end of Year One. (Phonics is learning to read letters or groups of letters by saying the sounds they represent.) More information regarding this check will be discussed at a later date.

Online safety

As part of safeguarding our pupils, online safety is a priority. All gadgets including mobile phones, tablets and iPads must have the relevant parental controls on them in order to prevent access to inappropriate material. If your child is exposed to any harmful material, it will impact their welfare. Please ensure that your child is only using age-appropriate forms of social media and gaming. The age restrictions are in place to protect them and maintain their wellbeing.

Keep watch of your child's screen time. It is up to us to help children balance their onscreen time and adopt a healthy digital diet. Too much time can have a negative impact on their wellbeing. You can visit www.internetmatters.org for more detailed age-relevant guidelines.

For further information on this, visit www.saferinternet.org.uk

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me either at the end of the day or by phoning or emailing the school to arrange a time to chat.

It has been a pleasure seeing how well the children have settled back into school and I look forward to working with you in supporting your child this year.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Briggs