St Giles CE Primary School: Curriculum Information: Class 1 – Autumn 1 – 2023 – All about Me

A Message from the Class 1 Team

Firstly, we extend a huge welcome to you all. Everybody has settled into the new school year really well and we are so proud of our new children!

Our topic for this half term is '**All about Me.'** This newsletter will explain the learning for each subject area this half term. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us with any questions or queries.

You should soon be able to log in to **Tapestry** (your child's online leaning journal) and see the learning they have been doing this week. Please feel free to add any activities that you and your child have been doing at home that you think it would be beneficial for us to be aware of, such as riding their bike, going on a walk etc.

Reading and Phonics

Reading is hugely important in our curriculum and each day the children will listen to stories in school to develop their love of reading. We will use fiction and non-fiction texts to support all our learning and extend the children's vocabulary.

As a school we use a phonics programme called 'Little Wandle'. This is a government validated synthetic phonic scheme that has been designed by schools for schools. The following link is designed especially to support parents with phonics and reading at home.

https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

We teach children a new letter sound (grapheme) each day and then on a Friday we revise the week's learning. The children learn the sound each grapheme makes in a word, and mnemonic to help them remember and then how to form that grapheme.

Each week the children will bring home 2 books to share with you:

The first will be a high quality book that they have chosen. This may be fiction or non-fiction and this is to encourage their enjoyment of reading.

The second will be the reading book that they have been reading for 3 sessions in school with us. They should have a good understanding of this book and be able to read many of the words by sight. Please praise and encourage them in their reading of this book and encourage them to read it aloud many times to develop their fluency.

Please use the reading record book to record when your child reads, how well they recognised the words or told the story and any comments they made.

Phonics: As we learn new letter sounds we will send them home with your child. Please practise saying the sound and spotting them in their reading books or in any other texts they are reading.

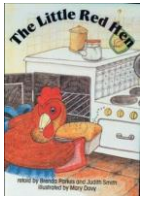
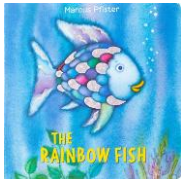
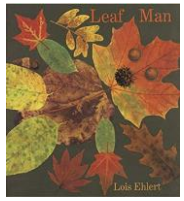
PE

PE sessions are every **Wednesday (Balance ability)** and a **Thursday (PE)** Children should make sure their PE uniform is in school on these days. Just a reminder that **earrings must not be worn** on PE days.

Clothing

If you haven't already sent a pair of wellies or outdoor shoes for your child, it would be really appreciated as the field can get very muddy and we do like to do outdoor activities. Please also send your child with a coat everyday as the weather turns colder.

Class 1– Autumn Term 1

	**In Literacy**: We will use a range of stories linked to our Topics.       Through these stories we will create simple story maps together and then use these to retell the story as a group and then individually. The children will be encouraged to start creating their own story maps and use their phonic knowledge to write some initial sounds and words. As a class we will compose shared sentences which the adult will scribe. These will be recorded in our class Floor book. The focus in Phonics will be on learning single letter sounds, how to write them correctly and hearing them at the beginning of words. We will learn to blend sounds together in short simple words to be able to read them. We will model and encourage the children to write the sounds they hear in words as they learn them or scribe for them initially.
	**In Maths:** Through a range of practical activities, we will be learning to recognise numbers 1 – 5, to show finger numbers up to 5 and to find 1 more of numbers up to 5. We will also learn the fast recognition of up to 3 objects (subitise). At the start of each maths session we will concentrate on key maths skills such as counting (forwards and backwards), subitising (fast recognition of quantities) and number matching.
 	**In Understanding the World:** Through our topic '**All about Me** the children will firstly learn about the roles of the different people who work in our school (Community). We will go on a tour of the school and meet the different people who work in our Community. They will then learn about the different parts of the body and why we are all unique. Through practical activities they will learn about their 5 senses sight, hearing, taste, touch and smell. They will also learn how to stay healthy and investigate different fruit and vegetables.
	**Art:** In Art the children will explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. The learning will focus on mark making through different drawing materials. They will explore using wax crayons, felt tips, chalk and pencils, learning to investigate the marks and patterns they can make using each different medium. They will begin to draw from observation using faces and self-portraits as a stimulus.
	**RE** We follow the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus and this term our RE learning will be centred around the idea of special books, following the theme 'Which stories are special and why?' 'They will be learning about stories that are important to Muslims and Christians and looking at the similarities and differences between them.
	**PSHE** Through the story 'The Colour Monster' we will explore the feelings happiness, sadness, fear, anger and calm. The children will learn to name these feelings and talk about how they feel. As a class, we will create a set of rules that we all agree we should follow.

	Throughout this term the children will learn to stop what we are doing and listen when we hear the bells ring, to put our things away and collect them at home time independently, to work together on tasks and to tidy things away together. Drug Education: This term the PSHE theme is Drug Education. Through stories, reenacting scenarios and practical activities the children will learn to: • understand what is safe and unsafe to eat/drink. • understand what medicine is and how it should be used safely. • know ways to keep myself healthy. • how to ask for help if I need it.
	**PE and Physical development** PE will take place on a **Wednesday (Balance ability)** and a **Thursday (PE)**. Please can you make sure P.E kits are in school on these days. **PE: Body Management:** This term the children will spend time exploring balance and managing their own body. The focus will be on learning to stretch, reach and extend in a variety of ways and positions. They will learn to control their body and perform specific movements on command. I **Balance ability** is a national 'learn to cycle' programme consisting of structured lessons and activities. It teaches children how to ride a bike without stabilisers and also balance, gross motor skills, core stability and having fun through physical activity. Alongside this we will also focus on developing the children's fine motor control. They will learn how to hold a pencil, paintbrush or crayon correctly. They will use tweezers to pick up a variety of objects, thread beads and pasta onto sticks and string, use playdough to squeeze and make models and weave ribbon in and out of the fence.

Things to be aware of

- We will no longer be having 'Treat Friday' at school. Children can still bring in their own snacks, but please can this be a healthy snack (fruit or veg) and not something that comes in a wrapper.
- P.E kits will be kept in school for the children to change into when needed. This will allow children to gain independence and help with their self-care.
- Please can you ensure children have a water bottle in school, we will keep this topped up with fresh water during the week and children can bring it home each Friday to wash.