

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Christchurch

Year One
Autumn Term 2025



Teachers: Ms Fox and Mrs Wilson

Teaching Assistants: Mrs James, Ms Kenny, Ms McNeilly, Mrs Cain and Ms Churchill

Phonics support: Mrs Dunleavy

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday!

It has been lovely having the children back in school. They have settled very well into Year 1 and are already back into school routines. Here are some of the topics and learning we have planned for this coming term:

Phonics We will be teaching phonics daily using the 'Little Wandle' Letters and Sounds scheme.	
Literacy focus points: Language, grammar and punctuation Sentence level Traditional tales Character descriptions Our key texts: Goldilocks The Christmas Story	'God Matters' (RE) Our school mission statement Creation Other Faiths Advent RSHE Relationships and wellbeing John 10:10 – Who is my neighbour? - talking about what makes a good friend and what being a good person really means.
Science Biology – Animals including humans Physics – Seasonal changes and weather	Mathematics Number – place value Number – addition and subtraction Geometry – shape
Geography Our School Wonderful Weather History The Great Fire of London	Computing Online safety Computer skills
Art and Design and Technology Design and Technology – Designing and making a pencil pot Art – Drawing skills and mark making	P.E. Outdoor P.E. – Ball skills and Jumping Skills The children will also be attending Forest School weekly.
Music Mrs Hughes will be teaching our class regularly for music lessons as well.	

PE

PE will be on a Wednesday. Please ensure that your child has their P.E. kit in school at all times and that all items are clearly named. We get changed in class so please send your child into school dressed in their normal school uniform each day.

Forest School

Forest School will be on a Tuesday. Please ensure your child has a change of clothes for these sessions with them – this should include wellies and either an all in one waterproof or waterproof trousers and a coat. As ever, please make sure that these items are named.

Reading

We highly value reading at St Joseph's and would strongly encourage you to read as much as possible to your child at home to develop their love of books! Children's reading folders should continue to come in to school each day to enable adults in school to lead the guided reading sessions and for your child to be heard on a 1:1 basis.

Please encourage your child to read their book with you daily and record this in their reading record. Even five minutes a day will make a huge difference. The children will be rewarded in school for reading at home. Sharing their school reading book is just one aspect of learning to read so please continue to encourage your child to identify sounds and words they see around them and enjoy sharing stories and information books from home and the library.

Going forwards, your child will receive new books on the following days/times:

Library – We will be changing our library books on a Friday. Children can only borrow one library book at a time so please ensure your child brings their library book back every Friday to avoid disappointment.

Reading books – Reading books will be collected in every Wednesday and new reading books will be issued on a Thursday. Your child will also be taking home a 'Love to Read' book on Thursdays, which is a sharing book that they choose themselves.

School Trip

Our school trip will be in the Summer term and we will let you know an approximate cost as soon as we can.

Allergies

Please continue to advise us of any allergies and remember that St Joseph's has a NUT-FREE policy, so NO peanut butter in lunchboxes please. Do check the labels on cereal bars you send in too. Please also ensure that your child brings a water bottle into school each day.

Medical Considerations

On the occasions when your child is absent, please notify the school at the earliest opportunity. Please keep your child away from school if they are ill. The school policy is to keep your child at home for 48 hours after any incidence of vomiting or diarrhoea. Please also keep us informed of any medical updates so that we can help to support your child in the best way possible.

Finally, if you have any concerns regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. They are doing a fantastic job so far in Year One and we look forward to seeing how much they will continue to progress throughout this term.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Wilson and Ms Fox