

# Year 1 Parent Information letter Terms 1 & 2 (Autumn 2025)

Hello and welcome to year 1! This information letter will give you some ideas of how to continue to support your child's learning at home throughout terms 1 and 2. As always, if you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to ask, or use the class email: [year1@staugustine.medway.sch.uk](mailto:year1@staugustine.medway.sch.uk)

## Important days

**Library books:** Changed weekly from the school library on a Friday afternoon.

**Homework** - Homework will be handed out every **Thursday** in school. The due date for homework will be the following **Tuesday**.

**Where's the Science in that?** - Each week, your child may volunteer to take our 'Where's the Science in that?' book home on **Friday**. This will be handed out on **Friday** and the book should be returned by the following **Wednesday**.

**Class Achievements**- It would be fantastic to know if your child participates in any extra-curricular activities outside of school and receives an award. These may be medals, certificates, or trophies. If your child does achieve an award, please feel free to e-mail us/send in their certificate/award and a photo, which we can then add to our achievement display.

## Important dates:

Jeans for Genes Day - 19<sup>th</sup>

September

Year 1 parent and carer information session- 22<sup>nd</sup>

September

Hello Yellow Day - 10<sup>th</sup> October

## Attendance

Attendance at school is essential for the children's academic education, social, emotional, well-being and development. Therefore, all children who achieve **100% attendance in Terms 1 and 2** will be entered into the Attendance Raffle on the last day of term 2 to celebrate improved attendance in school.

Every week the class with the highest attendance will be celebrated in assembly and presented with a trophy to proudly display in their class for the week.

Attendance percentages for each class will continue to be celebrated in the weekly newsletter.

## Home reading

**Reading Books:** In Year 1, books can be changed once completed and signed. Notes in the contact books about your child's reading are welcomed. To help support you at home, I have created a class login for **Oxford Owls** so you can access a number of eBooks in their collection. Go to the website: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-pupils/pupil-home> and log in - details follow below. The books available align with the Oxford Reading Tree series that we have in school. Select age 5-6 and then choose the level closest to your child's current home reading book from the drop-down menu.

Username: staugyear1 Password: lovreading

## Term 1

**History-** we will be exploring the topic 'How am I making history?' This supports children to develop an understanding of chronology by looking at their own lives and beginning to build an awareness that timelines extend back before they were born.

**Science-** the children will learn about the four seasons. They will observe changes across the seasons through nature and wildlife. The children will make observations on the weather and the effect of the seasons on trees.

**Art and Design-** our topic is called *Exploring line and shape*. Children will explore line and shape through a range of materials and stimuli. They will investigate the work of artists Bridget Riley and Paul Klee. Inspired by these artists, the children will experiment with expressive mark-making and portrait drawing.

**Computing-** children will gain a better understanding of technology and how it can help them. They will become more familiar with the different components of a computer by developing their keyboard and mouse skills.

**Music-** the children will sing simple songs, chants and rhymes from memory, singing collectively and at the same pitch, responding to simple visual directions and counting in. They will also be listening to music from the 1950s.

**P.E. -** the children will be learning different throwing and catching skills. They will work in pairs and teams to develop their skills and work in groups to play competitively. We will also be focusing on gymnastics in this term.

**PSHE and RSE-** the children will be talking about rights and responsibilities and the importance of valuing differences. In RSE the children will be learning about how we are unique, with individual gifts, talents and skills.

## Term 2

**Geography-** we will be exploring the 'What is it like here?' unit. It helps supports the children to develop an understanding of basic geography by looking at their familiar surroundings and beginning to build an awareness of the United Kingdom.

**Science-** children will be identifying the difference between objects and materials as well as exploring their surroundings to find examples of each. They will work scientifically by planning tests, making observations and recording data.

**Design Technology-** the children will be exploring stable shapes using innate sense of balance. Discovering ways to make freestanding structure more stable with a wide or a heavy base. Designing and making a fun and stable pencil pot. They will also be creating a windmill.

**Computing-** the children will explore different applications to make their own digital artwork. They will then create one using different tools available on a laptop.

**Music-** the children will be listening to a range of music and exploring the stories, origins and history of it. They will investigate how tempo changes help tell a story and make music more exciting. We will also be listening to music from the 1960s.

**P.E. -** the children will learn about different elements of dance, which will include exploring space, direction, levels and speeds and performing with different body parts.

**PSHE and RSE-** the children will be talking about healthy lifestyles and the importance of keeping a healthy body. In RSE the children will be learning about our bodies and the similarities and difference between boys and girls as well as personal hygiene.

## PE

Our PE days are **Monday** and **Friday** - On the children's P.E days, the children will need to come into school wearing their P.E uniform of navy tracksuit bottoms or shorts, white t-shirt and a navy sweater. For some lessons, the children may use the field, please can children attend school in trainers or plimsolls. This term we will be focus on Gymnastics before moving onto Dance in term 2. For gymnastics, the children may wear shorts underneath their tracksuit bottoms to wear during lessons, this is to ensure no loose clothing when using the wall bar and apparatus. **No earrings to be worn in school and hair must be tied back.**

## Show and Tell

Show and Tell will be on a House rotation basis each Friday as follows:

St Patrick - 19<sup>th</sup> Sept, 17<sup>th</sup> Oct, 21<sup>st</sup> Nov

St Andrew- 26<sup>th</sup> Sept, 31<sup>st</sup> Oct, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov

St David - 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct, 7<sup>th</sup> Nov, 5<sup>th</sup> Dec

St George - 10<sup>th</sup> Oct, 14<sup>th</sup> Nov, 12<sup>th</sup> Dec

Children should not bring in toys or items of great value (monetary or personal). Items should be relevant to topics, personal achievements or recent experiences e.g. days out or trips.

## English

**Term 1** - During term 1 we will focus on the beautiful picture books, *Supertato* by Paul Linnet and Sue Hendra and *There's a Dragon In Your Book* by Tom Fletcher. We will be composing sentences about the books, writing thought and speech bubbles in character roles. The children will be writing predictions and sequencing events from within the story. They will be created wanted posters and writing descriptions for their own evil villain. The children will also create their own narrative about their own fictional dragon and explore non-fictional elements too such as an explanation text.

**Term 2** - During term 2 we will focus on the story *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon. The children will be using drama techniques to role play scenarios, exploring feelings of a character. They will be using persuasive writing to write a letter and create lost posters. They will then move on to explore the short film clip *Way Back Home* where the children will explore adjectives and apply them to create extended noun phrases. They will also sequence sentences to write a character description. At the end of the term the children we be composing poems using *Lullaby for a Woolly Mammoth* by James Carter.

## Religious Education

**The Source to Summit: Lighting the Path** topics for term 1 and 2 are: Branch 1- Creation and Covenant and Branch 2- Prophecy and Promise. In Branch 1, children will be exploring the Christian belief that everything that is comes from a loving God. Children explore the creation story and begin to learn more about the Bible and its stories and messages. In Branch 2, the children are introduced to a simple understanding of the birth of Jesus. They learn to sequence the story and understand the importance of Mary's 'Yes' to God and the presence of the angels who are God's messengers.

**Wednesday Word** - in place of the printed Wednesday Word leaflets, you can access this resource online using the website: <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm> or using the Wednesday Word pencil (in the Catholic Ethos pencil) on our school website: <https://www.staccp.org.uk/content.aspx?id=178&name=The-Wednesday-Word>

## Mathematics

**Term 1** - During term 1 we will be focusing on number, looking at place value and addition and subtraction within 10. We will be sorting and counting objects and comparing numbers using mathematical vocabulary and symbols. The children will be counting forwards and backwards and identifying one more and one less through a range of activities. The children will also become familiar with Fluency in 3 which is done in a written format every other day at the beginning of our maths lessons. The fluency tasks assess your child's independent understanding of key mathematical skills across the maths curriculum and helps them to become embedded in their long-term memory.

**Term 2** - During term 2 we will be focusing on addition and subtraction within 20 and representing and using number bonds to begin solving one step word problems. This will be done by using mathematical apparatus at first and then move onto be written. We will also be exploring 2D and 3D shapes and identifying patterns. The children will again focus on recapping their understanding of place value and number to consolidate previous learning.

## Curriculum on our School Website

Our website is full of information about your child's learning for each of the curriculum areas and year groups. This can be found under the 'Curriculum' and 'Curriculum Subject' pages.

## Relationship Education (RSE)

This term the children will be learning through the following modules below:

**Module 1 - Unit 2 and 3:** Me, My Body and My Health and Emotional wellbeing

In Unit 2, we will focus on what makes us unique as well as the similarities and differences between girls and boys bodies (this does not include private parts). We will also discuss hygiene and how to keep ourselves clean and healthy. In Unit 3, we will discuss different feelings and things we like and dislike.

You can access the parent portal:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username: st-augustine-me8

Password: canterbury-8



Your child has their personal log-in details in the front of their contact diary with their unique password.

Sumdog can be accessed on a computer, mobile or tablet. Go to [www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com) or download the free Sumdog app which is available on Apple, Android or Amazon.

Each teacher will choose a 'Top Dog of the Week' from their class who will be celebrated in the school newsletter. This will be in recognition of participation, achievements earned and overall effort to use the program at home.



Practising phonics at home is essential to help your child become a fluent reader and writer. You can use the Phonics Play website to practise via fun games!

Username: staugustine

Password: canterbury