

Class 1 Newsletter

St Godric's Catholic Primary School, Thornley
Autumn Term 2024



Hello and Welcome!

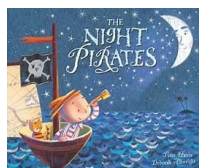
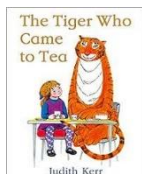
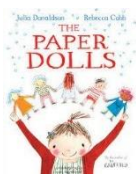
Hello and Welcome! We would like to welcome you and your families to the start of this new term. It's fantastic to be back and to welcome all of the new children into our Class 1 family.

Our Class Team

Mrs Dobson is the class teacher in Class 1. She teaches the class Monday to Thursday and Mrs Walker takes over for a day on a Friday. Miss Fradgley is the Teaching Assistant in Class One Tuesday to Friday and we welcome Miss Uddin as a teaching assistant on Monday and Tuesday. We also welcome Miss Tolly to class 1, who is with us to support specific children.

Our Curriculum

In Class 1, the children follow the curriculum set for them, depending on the year group they are in. The reception children will explore a curriculum based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the Year 1 children will follow the National Curriculum (NC). Throughout the terms, we plan our curriculum based on topics and themes often based around the natural world or the story we are focusing on at the time. These are books we are focusing our learning around for the autumn term. It would be lovely if you could share them with your child at home too.



We will be covering genres such as setting descriptions, poetry, non-chronological reports, narrative writing and instructions. As well as learning through topics, the children will also learn through weekly PE and RE lessons and daily phonics and maths activities. Much of the learning, in reception particularly, happens through play, with experienced staff playing and exploring alongside the children, extending their learning, through questioning and challenges.

PE

Our PE sessions in Class One will be held on a Monday and Thursday this term. The children should come to school on their PE days **already dressed in their PE kit** (black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, white t-shirt and trainers). They will stay in their kit all day and do not need to change afterwards. This term our PE sessions will be based around games, fundamental movements, dance and gymnastics. PE days may change from term to term.



Science

In our Science lessons, we will be carrying out investigations to develop our skills in working scientifically. Our topics this term are:

Animals including humans: We will be looking at the human body, our senses, what we need to survive and animals and their offspring.

Seasonal Changes: We will be observing the changes in the seasons, looking closely at how the weather and the trees around us change.

Geography

In our Geography topic, we will be looking at where we live. The children will develop their location and place knowledge, develop their geographical skills including using simple maps and they will learn to identify physical and human features in their local area.

Computing

In computing this term we will be learning how to stay safe when we are online as well as developing our mouse and keyboard skills.

Music

In music we will be singing new songs, learning to keep a steady beat and move our bodies to a rhythm. We will be listening to different genres of music and exploring untuned percussion instruments.

Art

In our art sessions we will be developing our drawing skills by using a range of materials and techniques. Our focus will be upon improving our pencil control, grip, fine motor skills, and our ability to apply a range of expressive marks.

History

In our history topic this term we will be exploring toys in the past. We will be developing our historical skills through comparison, looking at the toys we have at home and comparing them to the toys from the past.

Reading at Home



To help your child progress further in reading we will be sending out a home reading book. We encourage parents to read with their child as much as possible and record when you have read with them in their reading record. A reading guide will be sent out with their book. This book will be changed on a weekly basis and the staff will listen to your child read throughout the week, so please make sure their book and reading record are always kept in their book bag and brought to school every day. In Reception it is usual to start with books without words. These books give children the confidence to share and talk about stories with others. They will then progress to books with words.

It is also enormously important to read stories to your child at home. Not only is it enjoyable for you and your child to spend time together reading, it has huge impact on their development and learning. They develop their imagination, vocabulary and language, as well as their confidence and questioning skills and most of all their love for reading. In addition to their school reader, your child will also bring home a book that you can read to them.



Please...



Make sure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. Jumpers cardigans and coats are often removed and it is often a struggle to find their owners without a name in them. It also means it is hard to locate missing items of your child's clothing and it takes a significant amount of time for staff to sort through them.

Milk

Milk is provided for the children in school through the Cool Milk scheme. The school does not run the scheme but all new Reception children have been signed up by Mrs Starkie. Milk is **free** until the week your child turns 5. After this, the milk has to be paid for by parents if they want to carry on having it. If you want your child to continue receiving milk at school visit www.coolmilk.com and complete the registration form.



How YOU can help!

Many parents ask what they can do at home to help reinforce the learning that takes place in school. The impact of reinforcing the skills developed in school at home is huge. The following list is just a small selection of ideas. We recommend keeping sessions short, this means the children are able to concentrate well and have more enthusiasm and enjoyment for the tasks.

- Sharing school reading books (please can you sign your child's reading record when you have read with them.)
- Encouraging your child to put on and take off their own coat, jumper, socks and shoes.
- Support children in writing their name.

Thank you

Important Dates for your Diary

Welcome Liturgy – parents invited to attend	Date to be arranged
Reading and phonics parent information meeting	Tuesday 24 th September 3:00pm or 5:30pm
MacMillan Coffee Afternoon	Wednesday 9 th October 2pm-3pm
KS1 trip to the theatre – Tiger Who Came to Tea	Wednesday 2 nd October - Morning
Parents Evening	Wednesday 23 rd October 3pm-6pm
Half term	Break up on Thursday 24 th October PD Day Friday 25 th October Return to school Monday 4 th November
Children in Need	Friday 15 th November – Wear something spotty.
Whole school Christmas dinner	Tuesday 3 rd December
KS1 Nativity	Thursday 12 th December 2:00pm
Santa Run – details will follow nearer the time.	Monday 16 th December
Class 1 Christmas party	Tuesday 17 th December - afternoon
PJ Christmas Movie morning	Friday 20 th December
End of term	Friday 20 th December