



# Parents' Transition Information

## July 2020

### Welcome to Year 1



# Your new teacher is ...

**Hello, my name is** Miss Turner. I will be your teacher in Year 1. I joined Our Lady of Fatima Community in January 2020.

**In Year 1, I am going to need help with** keeping the classroom tidy and organised.

**My favourite** food is pizza! But I only have it as a special treat.



**In Year 1, I hope we can** take part in lots of fun activities and be really good friends.

**I love** listening to music! I usually try and sing along (but I probably make it rain!)

**I enjoy** travelling. I can't wait to tell you about all the exciting places I have visited.

My Favourite colour is **GREEN**.

**A little known fact about me** is I am getting married next year!

I do enjoy everyday but my favourite day is **CHRISTMAS DAY!**

# Expectations

At Our Lady of Fatima we pride ourselves in maintaining high expectations and appreciate your support with these too.

- Children in neat and tidy **full uniform** every day with correct socks and black shoes.
- Only **one pair of plain, round stud earrings** (no shapes or patterns) in the lobes of the ears. Watches are allowed but not smart watches in which messages can be sent and received
- Please do not get your child's ears pierced during school time. It must be done in the six week holiday and the children must be able to take the earrings out and put them in for PE sessions independently. Staff are not allowed to touch the piercings.
- No other jewellery is allowed
- No nail varnish allowed
- No extreme hair styles – tram lines etc.
- Long hair must be tied back (for girls AND boys).



# Expectations Continued

As you already know, as parents, you are the primary educators of your children. You all play a crucial role in the education of your children along with us all here at Our Lady of Fatima.

- Please ensure you are encouraging your child to be independent e.g. carrying their own bags into school, getting their PE bags ready for the correct days, having the equipment they need, handing in their homework on time etc.
- Children should be able to cut up their own food at dinner times unless they have a particular need in being able to do this
- Reading, writing and maths activities should be encouraged at home (more to follow in the upcoming slides).
- Please encourage children to look after their belongings
- Everything should be labelled





# Homework

- It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance. It is also important for parents to recognise that it is the children's responsibility to complete work too.
- If parents feel that the homework is insufficient for their child's needs, they are encouraged to take responsibility for the child's learning themselves (as co-educators with the school), by visiting the local library, providing other educational opportunities by visiting local places of interest or by buying homework books from local bookshops.
- Teachers will be more than happy to provide you with a list of educational websites to help with homework and revision.
- If parents have any queries or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher.

## **Pupils with special educational needs**

- We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

# Homework in Key Stage 1

We have a consistent approach to homework across our two key stage one classes.

In Year 1, homework will be set on **Tuesday** and needs to be **returned, completed at morning registration the following Monday**. Each child needs to bring their homework book into class as part of their weekly, morning routine. Homework will include many areas of the curriculum and will take on many forms. Some will be written work while some will involve practical activities. Please set up an allocated time each day to do some homework so it becomes part of daily routine.

# Year 1 Phonics Screening Check



## What is Phonics?

Children begin to learn phonics (sounds) in Early Years both Nursery and Reception. Once children begin learning sounds, these sounds are used orally to identify and make words. They will then begin to learn the letters which make each of the sounds and these are used to read and spell words. For this reason, the first initial sounds that are taught are 's', 'a', 't', 'p', 'i', 'n'. These can immediately be blended for reading to make simple CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant) e.g. sat, pin. Children then develop segmenting for writing skills; breaking the word into sounds to spell it out.

At Our Lady of Fatima, we teach phonics using Read Write Inc

## **What is the Phonics Screening Check?**

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1 or they have not taken the test before. Headteachers should decide whether it is appropriate for each of their pupils to take the phonics screening check. The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

## **What Happens During the Screening?**

The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one to-one and read each word aloud to a teacher. The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

## **Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)**

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

## **Reporting to Parents**

By the end of the summer term all schools must report each child's results to their parents. They will also confirm if the child has met the standard threshold. Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.



## How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.
- Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- Encourage and praise - get them to have a 'good guess'.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each one, e.g. /c/ in cat, /p/ in pat, /ng/ in sing, /ee/ in been.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.

# Any Questions?



Please email [Year1@olfatima.bham.sch.uk](mailto:Year1@olfatima.bham.sch.uk)