

Newsletter - Key Stage One - Autumn Term

Welcome back after the summer holidays.



Please ensure all items are labelled regularly. School drawstring bags are better than the larger backpacks.

P.E. Days

The children need suitable P.E. kits for outdoor and indoor sessions. These should be plain navy or black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and a plain white top. Tracksuit/fleece jackets and trainers are needed for outdoor P.E. and plimsolls for indoor P.E.

Year 1 have their P.E. lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays for multi-skills and dance.

Year 2 have their P.E. lessons on Wednesdays for gymnastics and Fridays for dance.

The more independent children are at getting changed, the more time we have to do P.E. so please practise at home.



Subjects

In Science, Year 1 are looking at materials and their uses. Year 2 will focus on living things and then materials after half term. RE will be focusing on 'Who am I?' in Year 2 and 'What Christians believe God is like' in Year 1. Then after half term, both year groups will look at Incarnation with Christmas.

In Computing, we are learning new skills with text and graphics as well as Internet Safety.

In History, we are investigating sources of evidence to tell us about The Great Plague and The Great Fire of London.

Secure knowledge on the countries in the United Kingdom, will be covered in Geography.

In Art, we will focus on painting skills in the view to link with the history theme.

Music will focus on the skills of pitch, beat and rhythm in relation to Djembe drums and Boomwhackers.



School visits and visitors

Please see separate letters for when the school trips have been organised this academic year.

If you are willing to help on our trips, please let the office know so we can get any safeguarding checks completed.



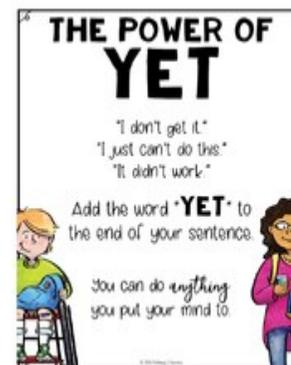
Don't forget to 'Hi 5' when you get a message.



Year 1 classes are always generating amazing areas for the children to use and learn in. We would much appreciate any donations of class resources that we regularly use, such as recyclable craft materials and in particular, any small world figures. A voluntary contribution of 50p per child weekly, would be greatly received to continue buying much needed resources for Year 1. Thank you in advance. KS1 team.

Growth Mindset

We, at St. Francis, value children's abilities as well as developing growth mindset. It is vital that children improve independence, resilience and self-confidence. They need to know that success is achieved through hard work, confidence and not giving up, no matter how difficult something seems. We will encourage, praise and motivate our young children to succeed in and out of school. Along with the Christian Values, British Values and our school vision of L.I.G.H.T. we want all our children to achieve their full potential and be proud of their success.



Homework

In KS1, your child will receive homework every Friday to be handed back in as early as possible the following week. Thursday at the latest. This will be one piece relating to work covered in class during that week. In addition, for Year 2, there may be times when specific English and Maths activities will be given for an extra boost. In Year 1, there may be some extra phonic tasks.



Don't forget to go on Spelling Shed as much as possible. Please teach children how to type their usernames and passwords too.

Reading

We are having a school focus on reading this year. Reading is essential to children's learning. In Year 1 and 2, children's books will be changed on a Monday and a Friday if they have been read at home. Please let us know when your child has finished the book by writing a comment in their reading diary. Your comments are greatly valued.

In Year 2, we will be doing guided reading sessions to focus on specific reading skills and targets, like prediction, deduction and inference.

In KS1, we have a new colour band scheme where the children are encouraged to read a variety of genres, rather than just one scheme, which is limiting their learning. The quality of reading and understanding what they have read is more productive than just reading for quantity.



Just a reminder that at St. Francis we are happy to discuss any issues or concerns that you may have regarding your child/ children. Please talk to your class teacher as soon as possible rather than other parents/carers so we can solve issues quickly and fairly. Thank you for your support.