

# YEAR 1 AUTUMN 1

## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2021

[www.stmaryshorsforth.org](http://www.stmaryshorsforth.org)

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"Happy together in God's family,  
we love, grow and learn."

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday and are as excited to get back into the school routine as we are. Year 1 seem to have made some great memories over summer and are ready to get stuck in to a new year. It has been lovely getting to know the children over this week and I am excited for the year ahead.

Year 1 will be supported in their learning this year by Mrs Charles and Mrs Dawson on a Friday afternoon.

In English this half term, we will be studying a range of Julia Donaldson books and looking at Snail and the Whale in depth. Through these texts, we will be working towards writing a book review, retell, letter of advice and an adventure fictional story. We will also be doing some cross curricular writing in geography where the children will observe and record the weather and write a weather diary to record their findings. A strong focus for this half term is supporting the children to write sentences independently using their basic skills such as capital letters, full stops, finger spaces as well as using their phonics to help them to spell accurately. We will be encouraging the children to say their sentences out loud before writing them down as this is an important part of developing their writing.

Reading is so important in Year One and from the very beginning of the year we hope to foster a love of reading. The children will begin to take home a range of books each week, we encourage the children to read for around 10 minutes a night to support them with becoming fluent, confident readers. Daily phonics at school will support the children with their reading and we will begin with recapping phase 3 sounds the children learnt in Reception to ensure they are confident in reading and writing them independently.

In maths, our focus will initially be on place value: counting forwards and backwards, reading and writing the numbers 0-10 accurately in digits and words and identifying one more and one less than a number. We will then move onto addition and subtraction and the children will be encouraged to use a range of apparatus to help them to work things out as this helps to make maths real and relevant so they can get to grips with abstract mathematical concepts.

Please use the class page to find many useful links to support your child's learning. For example, this half terms phase 3 tricky word spellings which the children can practice at home. To find out more about the other curriculum areas we will be studying this half term, please visit our website to see our knowledge organisers.

Please don't hesitate to come and see me if you have any questions or concerns.



### Important Days

#### **Monday:**

Reading books changed

#### **Tuesday and Thursday:**

PE lesson (come in PE kit)

### **Important Dates**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September**  
Taster football day

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September**  
Non uniform day for Good Shepherd Appeal £1  
Bun Sale in school for Good Shepherd Appeal

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**  
Individual school photos

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September**  
Macmillan coffee afternoon - 2:15pm

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September**  
Welcome back family mass  
11am @ St Mary's Church

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September**  
School birthday celebrations

**W/B 4<sup>th</sup> October**  
Black History week

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October**  
Rosary Day

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October**  
Non uniform day – wear green for Cafod  
Bring items for SVP food bank  
Year 1 and 4 Class Mass – 11:00am  
Harvest festival @2:30pm

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October**  
Year 1 English parent meeting @3.30pm

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October**  
Harlow Carr class trip

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October**  
Water safety

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October**  
Parents Evening 4-6:30pm

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**  
Training day

