



**ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust**

Providence Way

Baldock

Hertfordshire

SG7 6TT

Head Teacher: Ms A. Hanou

[www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

Tel: 01462 892478 Fax: 01462 892683 E-mail: [admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

*Year One Newsletter*

*Autumn Term 2018*

Dear Parents,

### **Transition from Early Years to Year 1**

I would like to welcome you and your child to Year One and Key Stage One. The following information includes the areas of the curriculum that your child will be covering this term, as well as a few reminders about routines and how you can help your child to become more independent and support them in their learning. The Year One curriculum builds upon the experiences that children have had in Early Years.

**English:** Our English lessons consist of whole class shared reading and writing, followed by independent activities. Our texts for this term cover poetry, fiction and non-fiction. We will be focusing on stories with familiar vocabulary and predictable and repetitive patterns. The children will also be learning about labels, lists and captions and begin to write recounts of their own experiences.

Handwriting practice takes place outside of English lessons and is taught in conjunction with phonics. Guided reading will take place every week and these sessions allow the children access to a wide range of texts and regular reading with an adult as part of a focused group. Reading skills are very important at this stage in your child's development as it allows them to access all areas of the curriculum. It is important that you help your child by hearing them read on a regular basis. Please use the reading diary to communicate progress or make relevant comments on your child's reading. We endeavour to change reading books at least 3 times per week providing your child has finished the text. It is therefore vital that you date and sign in the diary when you have heard your child read. If it is not acknowledged that the text has been read with, we will be unable to change the book. Once your child's reading diary is full you can pay £1 for a new one. Please could we keep hold of the old diary for a short time as a reference.



**ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust**

Providence Way  
Baldock  
Hertfordshire  
SG7 6TT

Head Teacher: Ms A. Hanou

[www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

Tel: 01462 892478 Fax: 01462 892683 E-mail: [admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

**Maths:** Each lesson begins with a mental and oral warm up activity. These skills are then applied to all aspects of their independent maths work to encourage mental calculation. This term, we explore place value, number sequencing and addition to 10 on order to consolidate a complete understanding of number before moving onto numbers to 20 in the second term. We also teach vocabulary related to addition and subtraction to provide a basis for problem solving. The children will also be learning about shape and language related to this.

**Science:** We will begin by looking at the topic 'Animals including Humans'. The children will then be exploring seasons of summer and autumn, identifying clothes we wear in different seasons and how the outside environment changes according to the season.

**Geography:** We will be using maps to explore our local area as well as other countries within Europe. We will be looking at the differences and similarities of a variety of locations with a particular focus on their landscape and weather patterns.

**ICT:** The children will have frequent access to the computer suite in which they learn about the basic functions on the computer and online safety. They will be using the programme 'Purple Mash' in order to access a variety of programmes in which they will learn to create, save and retrieve their work.

**PE:** Sessions for this term are on a **Thursday** and **Friday**. Through a range of exciting activities, the children will learn about the effects of exercise on our bodies and keeping safe during PE.

PE will be taught by Mr. Baker. PE sessions are held both inside and outside and children will therefore need trainers. You will also need to provide tracksuit bottoms and a top for the children to wear as the weather gets colder.

Please can we also remind you that children are safer without earrings for PE



**ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust**

Providence Way

Baldock

Hertfordshire

SG7 6TT

Head Teacher: Ms A. Hanou

[www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

Tel: 01462 892478 Fax: 01462 892683 E-mail: [admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

sessions, so unless your child can take out their own earrings, please remove them before they come to school on these days. If not removed you will need to provide surgical tape and teach your child to safely cover their earrings. They must also know how to remove it themselves. A kind reminder that children with pierced ears are permitted only to wear small studs at other times.

**Art / D&T:** In Art this term the children will make a self-portrait to communicate ideas about themselves. In D&T we will learn about the topic 'Eat more fruit and vegetables' which links to our Science topic looking at the Human body.

### **Other information**

**Morning Routine:** I would like the children to take responsibility for their belongings and undertaking routines independently. I would therefore like to ask you to say goodbye to your child at the entrance to the school building. If there is anything you need to discuss with me regarding your child, please send a note in with them or see me after school when the children are brought out. Alternatively, you may make an appointment to meet with me after school.

**Fruit:** Fruit will be provided for a morning snack with water or milk, if ordered. The children can also bring in a bottle of water, which they will have access to during child initiated lesson times but please make sure that the water bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name.

**Clothing:** I would like to remind you that all items of clothing must be labelled clearly as this will ensure that, if an item of your child's uniform is found, it can be returned immediately.

**Homework:** As before, we will be using the Homework Grids. Children can choose an activity each week to complete, they then need to hand this piece of work in on a Friday. Spellings will be introduced later in the term for the children to learn each



**ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust**

Providence Way

Baldock

Hertfordshire

SG7 6TT

Head Teacher: Ms A. Hanou

[www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

Tel: 01462 892478 Fax: 01462 892683 E-mail: [admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohns4.herts.sch.uk)

week, this will link to their learning in Phonics.

I hope you find this information useful and if you have any queries or problems please contact the school to make an appointment. If anyone would like to come and help in Year 1 please let me know and I will be very happy to arrange times and dates with you (please note that in accordance with the school's safeguarding policy, you may be required to obtain a police check disclosure, this can be organised through the school).

I look forward to seeing you at the forthcoming open evening on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September and the parent consultation evening later in the term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Tilli  
Class Teacher