

Head Teacher
 Mrs L.M. Martin B.Ed (Hons)
 Deputy Head Teacher
 Mrs E. Peacock Millington
 PE2 8PU

Southfields Primary School
 Southfields Estate
 Stanground

Telephone: 01733 562873

Fax: 01733 703329

email: office@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk

www.southfieldsprimary.co.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the start of a new term and school year at Southfields! We hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday. We are so excited to welcome you all into Year 1.
















We have a fantastic team in Year 1 and we aim to create an engaging and safe environment to enable your children to learning and grow. As we mentioned in the last letter there are two Year 1 teachers: Miss Wilson and Mrs Barsby. Miss Wilson will be supported by Mrs Carters and Mrs Kaur. Mrs Barsby will be supported by Mrs Storey (was Miss Young). Mrs Ashton and Mrs Bennett will also be teaching within the Year One base and Mrs Clarke will support pupils with their phonics. We are really looking forward to meeting you all and having a wonderful year together. Please take your time to read through this letter which includes some important information about life in Year 1.





Autumn term. This is a brief overview of what we will be learning during the Autumn term in Year 1. We will provide you with daily/weekly updates about our learning and how you can support your child at home.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Writing</u></p>  <p>We will have daily writing lessons which will focus on an engaging book over a short period of time. By the end of Year 1 the children will have been exposed to a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts. Our first book in Year 1 is 'Little Red Riding Hood'.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Reading</u></p>  <p>We will have daily Phonics lessons as well as 3 weekly Reading sessions. Your child will read with an adult in a small group focusing on decoding, fluency and comprehension.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Maths</u></p>  <p>In Maths we are starting with Place value which focuses on number recognition, counting, comparing and ordering numbers. We will then move onto addition and subtraction within 10.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Science</u></p>  <p>We will be looking at animals including humans. During Autumn 1 we will focus on the human body and the 5 senses.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PE</u></p>  <p>During the first half term we will be doing gymnastics and then in the second half term we will focus on ball skills.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Art</u></p>  <p>We will explore formal elements of art and children will be able to develop their art and design skills.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DT</u></p>  <p>We will look at Food focusing on Fruit and vegetables.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Music</u></p>  <p>All about me: Pulse and rhythm</p> <p>Animals: Classical music, dynamics and tempo.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Geography</u></p>  <p>In Autumn 1 we will look at our local area and ask 'what's it like where we live?'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>History</u></p>  <p>In Autumn 2 we will look at our family history and ask 'what was life like when our grandparents were children?'</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>PSHE</u></p>  <p>In PSHE we will explore families and relationships. There will also be lots of opportunities provided throughout the week giving children time to talk and be mindful.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>RE</u></p>  <p><u>The Family in Christianity:</u> What difference does belonging to a faith make to a family?</p> <p><u>Celebrations:</u> How do Christians show faith in Jesus?</p>
<p><u>Computing</u>  In the Autumn term the children will explore 'Purple mash' which they have an individual login in for. They will also learn about the importance of online safety.</p>			



Important Information



Arrival and Pick Up Times:

Children need to arrive at school between 8.40am and 8:55am. We encourage the Year 1 children to be dropped off in the morning at the school gate by the red and white barrier. They will then follow the Year 1 line as shown in the picture below until they reach the green gate by Miss Wilson's classroom where they will be greeted by a member of staff at their classroom door (Please see photographs below)



Mrs Barsby's classroom

Miss Wilson's classroom

Please be assured that members of staff will help your children through this short walk to their classroom and they will be greeted by their teacher.

Year 1 pupils will be picked up at 3.10pm. The children will be released from external classroom doors (See photo above). Children will be released one at a time.



Uniform:

Children should wear their school uniform three days a week and an outdoor **PE kit on a Monday**. Children can wear their own clothes on a Friday. Children can still wear their own clothes on their birthday.



PE:

Year 1 PE will be on a Monday. Children must have their hair tied up for PE sessions and no jewellery is allowed in PE for health and safety reasons. If your child wears stud earrings and cannot remove these themselves, we recommend that you remove these before your child comes into school.



Bags, Stationary and Water Bottles:

Your child can bring in their book bag or a small bag for reading and home learning books. Your child will receive a school water bottle. This should then be taken home, washed and returned to school each day filled up with water. Water bottles can be re-filled with drinking water in the classroom during the day. Your child does not need to bring any stationary.



Lunch:

If your child has a packed lunch, they can bring it in a lunch box or in a plastic bag. We do recommend keeping ice packs with the lunch to keep it cool and fresh. The children will be eating in the dining hall.

All children in Year 1 are eligible for Free School Meals. If your child is having a hot dinner at school this must be booked in advance. Mrs Buck will not be able to book meals on behalf of parents anymore due to Data Protection, therefore you must book your child's meal. If you do not book a meal, then you will need to provide one and bring it into school.





Snacks:

Fruit is provided by the school for the Year 1 children at break time.



Home Learning:

Home learning will be introduced gradually at the beginning of term. In Year 1, home learning is set on a **Friday** and is due back on a **Wednesday**. Your child will bring home a home learning book with their homework stuck into. Our non-negotiables that we expect to be completed are as follows:

- Reading. Please record in their reading records when you hear your child read.
- Phonics, maths, spelling and online learning to be completed weekly.



Reading:

Reading is extremely important at Southfields and supporting your child with their reading is expected. Reading should be completed three times every week as a minimum. However, the more often, the better! Reading books will come home with your child on a Friday. They should be returned the following Wednesday. We will be sending home our new 'Little Wandle' Phonics books which are matched to your child's Phonic ability. It is crucial that these are returned weekly as we use them in school for reading sessions. Your child will not get their new book until their previous book is returned. Please look after the book, if it is lost or damaged we would expect this to be replaced.

Please encourage your child to reread their reading book throughout the week as this supports their fluency and understanding of the text. Reading books should be kept in your child's book bag and brought to school every day.



Spellings:

In Year 1 new spellings will be set every **Friday**. The spellings will reinforce what your child has been learning at school and provide an opportunity for them to apply their phonics skills. We will be using Spelling Shed to support spelling learning at Southfields. Each child will receive a login for this online resource. The children will receive a copy of their spellings in their home learning book and they can practise them online too. Your child will have their weekly Spelling assessment in school on a **Friday**.



Online Resources:

Your child will have access to the following sites: Bug Club (on Active Learn), Spelling Shed, Purple Mash, IXL and Espresso. We recommend that your child uses their membership given by the school to the best of their advantage by thoroughly exploring these websites at home. These are amazing and can really help to support and enhance home learning. The children will keep their logins and passwords for online resources throughout their time at Southfields so should have these already. However, if you need these again, please ask your child's class teacher who can help with these.

Class Dojo:



We love to use Class Dojo to communicate with you at home. Please do make sure you are connected to Class Dojo and keep an eye on Class Dojo for day-to-day class and whole-school information, photos and updates of our fun learning, updates on your child's behaviour and messages from the class teacher. A key priority of ours is the relationships between teachers and adults at home to ensure that the children are fully supported at home and at school. Please do not hesitate to communicate with your class teacher or year leader if you have any questions, comments or worries. It should be noted that this tool is to be used in an appropriate and friendly way. At Southfields Primary School, we operate a zero tolerance approach to the use of inappropriate and disrespectful behaviour anywhere on the school site, social media or via our communication systems with parents. We hope you can all support us with this so that we can continue to use this helpful online tool.

I understand that this letter contains a lot of information, so please feel free to read it more and contact us if you have any further questions, we will always try our best to help you.

Yours sincerely, The Year One team

