



ST RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE

# Year 1 Spring Term Curriculum Newsletter

2018 - 2019

We welcome you all back and it's lovely to see the children have come back refreshed and eager to learn. Many thanks for all the lovely and thoughtful gifts and cards myself (Mrs O'Byrne), Ms Taylor and Mr Roy received, we were very touched.

Thank you for all the support you have given us in aiding your child's education so far this academic year. We have put together this letter in order to support you in understanding how you can continue to assist your child's progress this term at St Richard Reynolds.

We are delighted that Miss Siobhan Neave will be joining us in Year 1 until June, she is a finalist PGCE student from Brunel University. I hope you will make her feel very welcome.

Please continue to email [year1@srrcc.org.uk](mailto:year1@srrcc.org.uk) with any non-urgent notices. This address is monitored by class teachers and will not be checked during the school day. Any changes to pick up or attendance should be mailed to [attendance@srrcc.org.uk](mailto:attendance@srrcc.org.uk) or a phone call to the office which will be passed to class teachers.

Children will continue to have Music, French and PE taught by our high school specialists on a Thursday.

Kind regards

Year One Team

## Topic

***Superheroes (Exploring both real life heroes and fantasy superheroes)***

***If you go down to the woods today (Traditional tales and the natural world)***

This term our topics are Superheroes and If you go down to the woods today.

In our ***Superheroes*** topic we will be exploring superheroes and their powers as well as exploring real life heroes including those from history such as Grace Darling and those within our community. We will be creating our own superheroes and creating DT work linked to real life heroes. We will also explore toys and the materials they are made from and will take part in a workshop from a real life toy manufacturer.

In ***If you go down to the woods today***, we will use traditional tales and fairy stories as inspiration for our work. As well as exploring the natural world in Springtime.

## Religion

In Religion this term we will explore three main topics **Special People, Meals and Change (Lent)**.

Children will learn about the special people in our lives at home, our school and our local community. We will be visiting our local church to find out about the special roles the people hold there and discover the parts of the church.

The second topic on Meals explores the Eucharist. Children will learn about the Mass, in particular the links between the Last Supper and communion. Children will also learn the prayer that Jesus taught us, the Our Father.

Our final topic of the term will explore how we change and grow and will be supported by our Lenten fundraising activities.





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## English

**English** – Across this term we will break up our lessons into looking at literary texts, non-fiction texts and poetry.

In our work on superheroes we will continue developing our knowledge of sentence structure writing captions and sentences. We will explore writing recipes and comic strips as well as creating our own fantasy stories.

Our focus in our fiction work will be looking at traditional tales and describing settings and characters.

A big focus in our writing will be to:

- Re-read our work to ensure it makes sense.
- Use capital letters for the names of people, places, days of the week, etc.
- Punctuate sentences with capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks.
- Use grammatical terminology.

**Reading** – When we think about reading we need to consider that there are two features to reading: word recognition and comprehension.

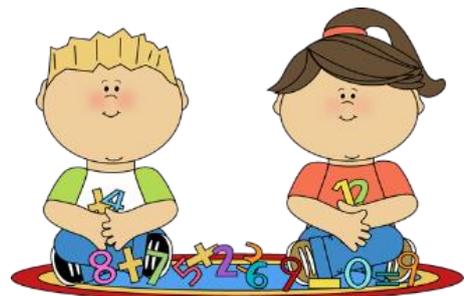
Hearing your child read every night will ensure they are developing their word recognition skills, as this provides them with multiple opportunities to read a text and build up their sight vocabulary as well as utilising their phonic knowledge. However, it is equally important that children develop their comprehension skills. Initially this will be through your questioning and quite often the books will provide questions that you can read prior to reading the book and also afterwards. The new comprehension homework

that has been set will help develop this skill as well as continuing to use Bug Cub.

**Phonics** - A big part of our work in Year 1 is focused on phonic knowledge; this is due to the Phonic Screening Check that pupils will take in June. The check consists of 40 words; 20 real and 20 pseudo (monster/made up) words. This term we will introduce these terms and provide regular phonic practise tests in our daily phonic sessions. We look forward to welcoming you at our phonics information evening on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January to find out more about phonics; the phonic screening check; and how you can support your child at home.

**Spelling** – Alongside the development of phonics (which is used in both reading and writing) we are also beginning to focus on spelling. Weekly spelling tests will be a mix of words that can be sounded out and words that children will have to learn by sight. Please support your child with learning their spellings at home.

**Handwriting** – This term we will be looking at the formation of upper case letters and continuing to learn the formation of pre-cursive letters ready to begin joining in the summer term.





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## Maths

In Mathematics we have moved to a mastery approach which provides children the opportunity to deepen understanding of a topic before moving on. We have developed a secure knowledge of Number and Place value for numbers to 10 and we will extend this knowledge to numbers to 20 and then to 100. We continue exploring addition and subtracting and begin to develop an understanding of multiplication and division.



## Science

In Science this term we will be covering **Materials and their properties**. Children will be able to recognise, describe and sort materials according to their properties and this will culminate in a Science investigation where they will be able to put their knowledge into practice.

In the second half term, children will return to their topic work on **seasonal changes**, but this time focusing on changes to Spring. They will



also observe changes across the seasons by exploring the signs of spring through nature and wildlife. We will learn to identify and classify plants.

## Art/Design Technology

These subjects will be taught through their topic work. Pupils will explore moving pictures, healthy food and create their own vehicles. They will explore the natural world through a variety of media and materials.

## History

Within the context of our topics; we will be exploring historical heroes and toys. In this topic children will learn how to ask and answer questions about the past. They will compare toys; noticing how they have changed over time.

## Geography

This half term we will focus on our **local area**. We will think about our locality beyond the school gate; building on children's knowledge and understanding of their school environment.

Children will explore their local area using first hand observation to enhance their locational awareness, along with developing map and fieldwork skills.

## Computing

This term in Computing, Year 1 will be completing their first Purple Mash unit on 'Internet Safety'. This involves learning to log in securely, keeping passwords safe, exploring the various applications within the program and saving the work that they have created.



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## PE

Please continue to wear PE kit to school on a Thursday. Please ensure PE kit complies with the school uniform policy; no black leggings.

Children will be learning **Basketball** and **Gymnastics**.

In basketball they will be further developing throwing and catching skills as well as developing their passing. They will learn about the different ways of communicating including verbal and visual which is required for a game.

In Gymnastics, they will explore how to use the space safely. Children will consider the different ways they can make their bodies move, for example through jumps and rolls and begin to combine these actions to create a sequence.

After half term, children will be learning **dance**. They will be working in small groups to create a dance routine for the annual SRRCC Primary Dance Challenge.

## Music

This term we will be developing our musical ear through the singing of rounds. This is a starting point for future singing and harmonies. Throughout this term we will continue to build upon our knowledge of pulse and rhythm.

## French

In French, children will reinforce greetings and learn colours. We will also learn about French festivals, especially celebrating Easter in France.

## Class Fund

As in previous years, we would like to ask you for a voluntary contribution of £10 per term or £30 for the year to support our work with the children. This enables us to be able to buy items to help our activities, as well as ingredients for cooking, plants for growing etc. Please send cash in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name.

## Important Dates

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** – EYFS, Phonics and KS1 SATS evening

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February** – Safer Internet Day

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Peter Cowley E-Safety Talk for Parents (6.30p.m.)

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February**– Arts Week

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February**– Half term

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**- Inset day

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February** – Toy workshop

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Arts' Week Celebration Event

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – Ash Wednesday (Distribution of Ashes)

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** – Parents' Evening  
Lenten Art and Prayer Group starts  
World Book Day – Lenten Fundraising

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** – Parents' Evening

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**- Infant Mass – New Life (Parents' Invited – Reception, Year 1 and 2)

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**-END OF TERM 1pm finish