



# Parents' Transition Information

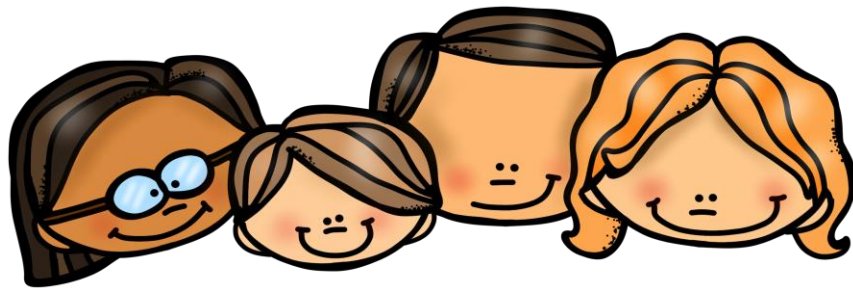
## July 2023

Welcome to Year 1



Welcome to Year 1. My name is **Mrs. Riley** and I will be your child's class teacher next year.

I'm really looking forward to meeting you all – at some point – but, in the meantime, I want you to know a little bit about our class so that you can chat to your child about what to expect as they move into Year 1.



# Your new teacher is ...

I have 3 children called Joe, Adam and Niamh. They all came to St. Joseph's

## Things I don't like:

Snakes  
Peas  
Coconut

I love cats. In fact I have 5 cats at home – Whiskers, Bella, Murphy, Peanut and Layla.

I support Liverpool F.C.

I love to travel, especially to Italy.



## Things I love:

Shoes  
Chocolate  
Cats  
Chocolate  
Being a teacher  
Chocolate  
Reading and ... chocolate!

## More about me:

Before I was a teacher, I was a lawyer.  
I can't sing!  
I have run a Brownie unit for nearly 40 years!

**Hello, my name is Mrs Riley**

## How is Year 1 different to Reception?

In Year 1, we will gradually take a more structured approach to learning. We will continue to follow the **Read, Write Inc.** scheme for daily phonics sessions but will also have 45 minutes of additional English lessons too. We base our maths around the **White Rose** Schemes of Learning and use a lot of concrete resources and pictures to help us learn.



Other subjects you will learn about will include 'Homes through time', 'Flight', 'Seas and Coasts', 'Seasons', and 'Plants'. There will also be some fantastic opportunities to develop skills in art and D&T. Look out for our half termly curriculum overview on our school website.

# National Phonics Screening Check

In June, the children will complete a phonics screening check. Each child will have to read 20 real and 20 nonsense words. All 40 words will contain sounds that the children will learn over the course of the year. The statutory assessment takes place on a 1:1 basis, in a quiet, relaxed environment. All through the year, we practise decoding (pulling the word apart into the individual sounds) and blending (putting the sounds back together to build the word). This will give the children the skills and confidence to read unfamiliar words. Our phonics scheme calls the decoding 'Fred Talk' and we have a puppet frog called 'Fred' who helps them.



We will also continue to learn tricky words (also known as CEW or Common Exception Words) although these do not form part of the screening check. Our phonics scheme calls these 'red' words. Examples include: *the*, *was*, *some*.

# How you can help with phonics:



"Teach a child to read, and keep that child reading  
and we will change everything. And I mean everything."  
Jeanette Winterson.

- Encourage your child to read to you daily
- Play phonics games [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)
- When your child gets stuck on a word when they are reading at home, ask them to:

1. Look for *special friends* (letters that go together to make one sound e.g. *igh, ow, sh, o-e*)

1. Fred Talk (sh-o-p)



1. Blend

(More information on phonics can be found on the school website but please don't hesitate to speak to any member of the KS1 team if you have any questions or concerns.)

## Reading at home

Many of the Year 1 reading objectives are about the understanding and enjoyment of texts. Take time to share other stories, poems and rhymes where *you* read and your child listens. Talk about characters, events, settings and encourage your child to make predictions. Discuss how the stories relate to their own lives. Bedtime stories are perfect for this.

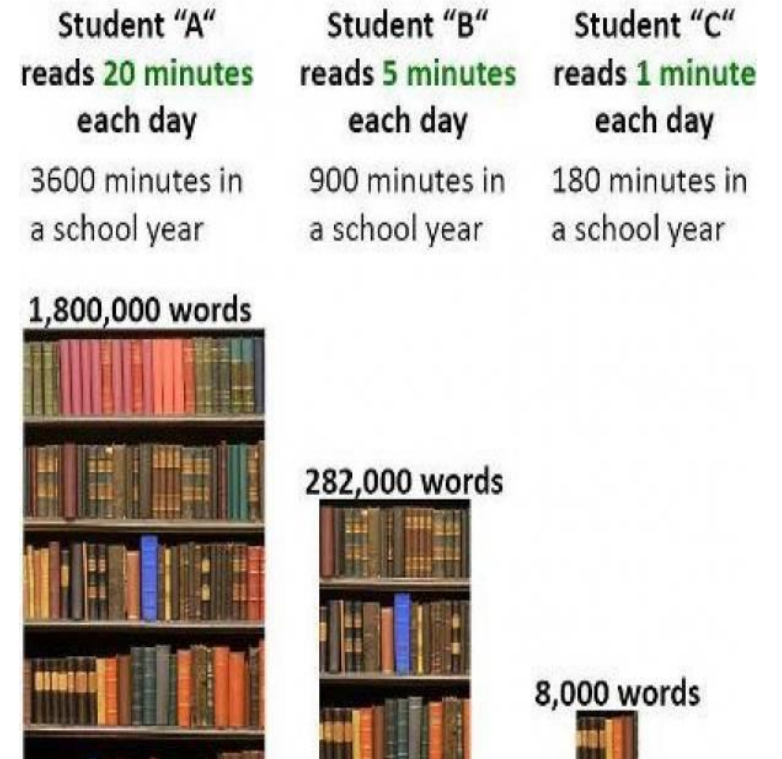




# Reading at home

We want your child to have a love of books so he or she needs to read more than just their school reading book. Your child needs to read a range of fiction and non fiction texts for pleasure at home. Seeing family members reading books, magazines, newspapers is a brilliant way to foster a love of books.

## Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?





# Homework in Key Stage 1



We have a consistent approach to homework across our two Key Stage 1 classes.

- **Reading** should be completed every night and recorded on Boom Read.
- **Maths:** Each half term, you child will be given a list of KIRFs (key instant recall facts) to learn e.g. doubles up to 10, one more/one less numbers to 20 and so on. Please help your child to practise these basic facts as they will help them greatly with their maths in school. You could also download the White Rose '1 minute maths' app to help your child. [1-Minute Maths App | White Rose Maths](#)
- From time to time I may ask the children to complete a simple project at home linked to our learning across the curriculum. Full details will be sent home as appropriate. .

# Supporting your child



- It is vital that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance.
- If you feel that the homework is insufficient for your child's needs, please contact me. I am more than happy to provide you with a list of educational websites or suggest places to visit to enhance educational experiences. The local library also offers a range of ideas to support learning. I can be contacted via the school office or at [info\\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com](mailto:info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com)

## **Pupils with special educational needs**

- I set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. I aim to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, I will endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

# Expectations

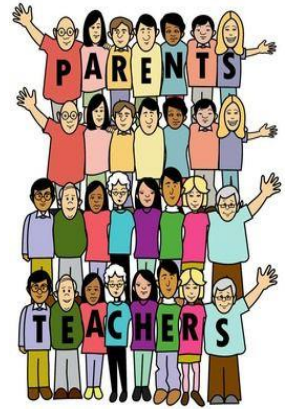
At St. Joseph's we take pride in maintaining high standards in every aspect of school life and appreciate your support with these too.

## **We expect:**

- Children to wear their **full uniform** every day with correct socks and black shoes.
- Only **one pair of plain, round stud earrings** (no shapes or patterns) in the lobes of the ears can be worn.
- Watches are allowed- but not smart watches in which messages can be sent and received
- Please do not have your child's ears pierced during term time. This must be done during the six week holiday and your child must be able to independently remove and replace their earrings for PE sessions. Staff are not allowed to touch the piercings.
- No other jewellery is allowed
- No nail varnish allowed
- No extreme hair styles – tram lines etc.
- Long hair must be tied back (for girls AND boys).



# Parents and Teachers working together



As you are aware, as parents, you are the primary educators of your children. This means you all play a **crucial role** in the education of your children alongside all of us here at St. Joseph's.

**It is, therefore, important that:**

- You **encourage** your child to be **independent** e.g. by carrying their own bags into school, getting their PE kit ready for the correct days, having the equipment they need, handing in their homework on time etc.
- Children can **cut up their own food** at dinner times -unless they have a particular need and require support to do this. They should also be able to **use a knife and fork** correctly.
- They recognise their own belongings. They will be **responsible for looking after everything** they bring into school. They will be expected to look for misplaced items themselves so it is vital that **everything is labelled**.

We would also ask that you encourage your child to read, write and use their maths skills every day at home. There's more about this in the upcoming slides.

# Behaviour

## Behaviour

At St Joseph's we aim to create and sustain a positive, supportive and secure environment

We do this by also being **Safe, Ready and Respectful** of everyone in our school.

## Our School Rights

There are four basic rights for both adults and children in our school:

- The right to feel and be safe
- The right to learn
- The right to be treated with respect
- The right to be the person God wants me to be



# Behaviour cont.

**Everyone has the responsibility to protect these rights through their own behaviour and actions.**

- The responsibility to make sure others feel and are safe
- The responsibility to allow others to learn in class
- The responsibility to treat others as we would like to be treated
- The responsibility to allow others the opportunity to develop as God wants them to be





# Behaviour cont.

At St Joseph's, great emphasis is placed **on rewarding good behaviour** displayed by children.

**House points** will be issued for good and exceptional behaviour and work (ranging from 1 to 3 points). House points are collated at the end of each week and the winning house announced during the weekly 'Gifts from God' assembly on Fridays. The winning house over the term will be rewarded with an extra prize for their efforts.

This will be decided by the school staff i.e. additional playtime etc.

Each class will have a **recognition board** to recognise the children who are displaying positive behaviour. Safe, ready, respect.

In addition to this, one child will be chosen from each for **Good Work and also for displaying the Catholic virtues** (Catholic Schools Pupil Profile). Staff can also send a child to the Vice Principal/Principal for exceptional work.

If a child is not being safe, ready and respectful they will be reminded of the school rules by the class teacher and which of their behaviours is not following this.

There will be consequences if children are repeatedly not following the rules.

If this behaviour continues to escalate sanctions may be required and parents may be informed. In more serious incidents, Mrs McCole will be informed followed by Mr Wilke



## **Bullying**

All bullying will be investigated in school and dealt with appropriately

If you feel that you are being bullied - you should tell someone straight away - class teacher, a member of SLT, School councillor, putting a note in the worry box

Bullying will not be tolerated at St Joseph's

# More about Year 1

## Staying healthy

Healthy lunch boxes are **A MUST!**  
Fruit is still provided in Year 1



## Water

Your child will need a freshly filled water bottle every day. Your child **MUST** take their water bottle home at the end of each day.



Your child does not need to provide their own pencil case. All equipment will be provided.

Have a lovely, restful Summer holiday and I look forward to welcoming your children to Year 1 in September.

Should you have any worries or concerns, please to do not hesitate to get in touch via

email: [info\\_stjosephs@emmausmac.com](mailto:info_stjosephs@emmausmac.com)

