



St. Lawrence Primary School

La Grande Route de St Laurent
St Lawrence
Jersey
JE3 1NG

Telephone: 01534 863172
Nursery: 01534 865524
Email: admin@stlawrence.sch.je

Autumn Term 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have all had a lovely Summer break. It is a real pleasure to be able to move up with your children and it was lovely to welcome them all back to school this week. We are fortunate to also have Mrs Caviglione joining us as the Year 1 Teaching Assistant and I am very much looking forward to working with her.

General

Arriving at school - The children are dropped at the bottom gate and make their way up to the classroom. I will be waiting in the classroom to greet them. When they arrive, they put their lunchboxes on the trolley, coats on pegs, snack in their box and bags in drawers. If your child attends our Breakfast Club, they will be brought to the classroom at 8:30am.

End of the day – If your child attends after-school club, or any of the sports clubs, then please could you let me know via email, so I can ensure that they get to the right place at the end of the day. If they attend the Freedom after-school club please could you inform me of the days they attend.

Snack – Please can your child come to school with their **snack in their green book bag**. In Year 1, the children take their snack outside at playtime, so please be mindful of this when thinking about how much snack they will need, as they also like to have a run around. They have a 15 minute playtime.

What to bring to school – Your child will need their lunchbox, water bottle (**please only put water in the bottles, as spilt juice is a lot messier and can result in a lot of upset when work the children are proud of is damaged**) and book bag. If they require an extra bag for clothes etc please can this come to school in a drawstring bag (the same as when they were in Reception).

Please ensure that your child does not bring rucksacks or the thicker green book bags to school. The classroom has been re-arranged and we only have a small area for hanging 30 coats and the trays will not close properly with the bigger book bags, which then causes health and safety issues.

Lunch- The routine for lunch is the same as the children experienced when they were in Reception. They eat their lunch in the hall from 12 – 12:30. They then go outside to play with some of the other year groups.

Classroom environment – This year we have set up a range of different areas in the Year 1 Classroom to support their interests and needs. We have introduced a 'Continuous Provision' approach alongside the teacher-led sessions. More information about Continuous Provision can be found via the link below:

<https://earlyexcellence.com/latest-news/press-articles/maximising-learning-in-key-stage-one/>

This approach will support a smooth transition into Year 1 and the areas will be adapted over the year to cater for the different curriculum expectations.

Personal items - Please ensure your child does not bring in any personal objects as there is a worry that these may get broken or misplaced. If your child brings home any work books then please return them to school.

Please ensure coats, uniform, water bottles and snack pots are named. This helps us return any found items to the correct person, quickly.

Equipment - The children do not need to bring pencil cases or pens from home as the stationary they need is provided in class.

We have a tray for water bottles in the class so that the children can stay hydrated during the day. They can re-fill this at the sink, if required. The children have access to their water bottles all day. They will need a separate drink with their lunch.

Email – I do not always get the opportunity to access my email during the day. I aim to respond to emails as often as I can, but during the day meeting the needs of the class is my priority. If you have any worries or concerns that need addressing quickly, then please contact the school office.

Change in circumstances - If there are any changes at home that may affect your child, e.g. a bereavement, house move, hospital appointments, family members being away from home, change to family life, then please inform me so I can be aware.

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Birthday cakes – If your child has a birthday I am happy to hand out any cakes/treats. These will need to be pre-cut into 30 or individual cupcakes. The children will take them home at the end of the day.

House points – Children will be awarded house points for demonstrating the 'core values' of the school. These are Success, Independence and Responsibility. It would be helpful if you can talk to your child about what they can do to earn some house points. If your child has completed something outside of school, please feel free to email me as we would love to celebrate it in school..

Star of the Week – Star of the week will be awarded on a Friday. Please celebrate this at home. It is a fantastic achievement! The Star will come home with a certificate for display at some point during the week.

Facebook – I will try to regularly put photos on Facebook, so you can see what your child has been up to. I am aware that some children do not have permission for photos on Facebook. If your child was not on Facebook in Reception and you would like to give permission, then please let me know and I can send a form home.

Assessments – All children are assessed for RWI phonics regularly, over the year. In Maths and Reading the children complete a standardised test, 2 – 3 times a year. In Writing, the children write one piece of unaided writing, every half term. This may sound over-whelming, but it is delivered in a style that the children are familiar to and is delivered in a way that the children, hopefully do not feel pressured.

Allergies – If your child has any allergies, please email Mrs Ward to let school know. I have been given a list of allergies that are on the school system, but sometimes these change, so it would be great to ensure that everything is up to date.

Investigation area – In the class we have an investigation area set up, this is part of the continuous provision available for the children. It is not an activity that always has an adult standing over it. Sometimes there will be food colouring, spices, shaving foam, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda, etc in this area. The children will be reminded not to put anything in their mouth etc, but this also means that it is very important that I am aware of any known allergies.

Staff

Mrs Caviglione is the Teaching Assistant in Year 1.

Mrs Bugbird continues to support some children during the first term as part of the ELSA programme.

Ms Jansen is the Deputy Head and is also the SENCO for the school.

Miss Stievenard teaches the children for Music on a Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs Lowry teaches the children for two afternoons a week. Usually this will be on a Thursday and a Friday afternoon.

Mrs Dowdswell, Mrs Langlois, Mrs Caviglione, Mrs Bugbird and Mrs Nash all support the children during lunchtimes.

English

Read, Write, Inc. takes place daily and incorporates writing, comprehension and letter formation skills as well as developing reading. Children are assessed regularly and are then placed in groups according to their needs. Sometimes children may be working with others from a different year group. All staff in KS1 have completed the Read, Write, Inc training and each staff member takes a group in the morning. Please could you ensure that your child brings their RWI folders into school every day.

In Writing sessions, we will spend time on improving our skills. This will include work on letter formation, basic sentence structure, punctuation, applying our R.W.I. skills to writing and writing a variety of sentences.

Writing sessions will start with small group work, leading on from the 1:2 writing time in Reception, to working in groups of 5/6 to write sentences, we aim to be writing as a whole class, after half term.

Mathematics

At St Lawrence, we follow the White Rose Maths Scheme. This scheme focuses on developing a deep understanding and mastery of number. The children will use lots of practical resources and have a workbook. The first chapters look closely at number, place value and addition and subtraction. It is really important to ensure that you child can work with numbers to 5 before they move onto 10, 20 and beyond, recognise and write the numerals 0 – 5, Read numbers on a dice to 5 without counting the dots, recognise 1,2,3,4 and 5 objects without always having to count the objects 1 to 1, begin to add and subtract to 5 using objects. The more they can practise these skills at home the more confident they will become in Maths. It is important that the children are already confident with numbers to 5 to enable them to access the first

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chapter of the Year 1 Maths. Each half term a letter will be sent home detailing a fluency skill to work on at home. These are key mathematical areas in the Year 1 curriculum which need continuous practise and consolidation. The Fluency Policy is on the website and has all the information you need. It is organised by Year group and has activities for each term. https://www.stlawrence.sch.je/wp-content/uploads/Fluency_Policy_2021.pdf There is also a calculation policy that shows you the strategies we teach the children for the four operations.

The White Rose scheme offers free workbooks to parents to help support their child at home. The workbooks can be downloaded via the following link:
<https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources>

Science

This term our topic is 'Animals, including Humans'. The children will be taught to:

- identify and name a variety of common animals
- describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals
- identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body
- say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

I have organised two visits to further develop learning in this topic as follows:

1. A 'Classification' workshop at Jersey Zoo on Tuesday, 18th October, departing school at 10:30, and
2. A trip to the Wetland Centre to take part in a workshop delivered by the Education Officer from the National Trust for Jersey on Tuesday, 15th November, in the morning.

P.E.

This term our PE will be on a Wednesday morning and a Thursday afternoon. Please could your child wear their PE kit on these days.

R.E.

This term the children will be taught R.E. by Mrs Lowry. They will be looking at 'Special Books'.

Computing

This half term the children will be looking at computing systems and networks ('Technology around us') and will be finding out what technology is and naming parts of a PC, netbook and iPad. The second part of the Autumn term will focus on Digital Painting where children will have the opportunity to develop their mouse control skills and media skills.

Topic (History)

Our Learning Project for this half term is a History-based topic focusing on 'Toys in the Past'. The children will be finding out about toys in the past and comparing them with toys of today. They will be learning about how toys in the past were made and the materials used to make toys, both in the past and today.

To support this topic further, I have organised a visit to the Jersey Museum for the children to take part in a workshop based in the Toy Room at the museum. We will also be able to borrow the resources from the museum and handle them carefully in class to look at them more closely. This visit will take place on Wednesday, 21st September in the afternoon.

Art

In Art, we will be looking at self-portraits and using different media, such as charcoals, to draw with.

Music

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Our Music lessons this term with Miss Steivenard will help us learn about rhythm, beat and basic note reading.

Homework

The children will need to read with an adult at least four or five times a week, for about 10 minutes. It would be valuable for the adult who reads with your child to talk to them about the story or book they are reading to ensure they have a good understanding. Encourage your child to point to the text and 'Fred talk' words when they get stuck. Some words that can not be 'Fred talked' are red words (e.g. some) these words the children need to learn to read by sight. Some sounds your child may not have been taught yet (e.g. Speed Sounds Set 3) so these words are also called 'Red words' until they learn the sound. If your child is not yet reading at this level, please could you read to them and encourage them to look at the print and identify the sounds / words that they do know.

It would be beneficial for children to rehearse their number bonds to 10 regularly (e.g. $5 + 5$ / $1 + 9$ / $3 + 7$). They can win a certificate if they can recall them at speed.

Spelling homework may also be given once the children are in Blue or Grey group.

Elf Day

In December, the children will create a variety of objects to sell to the rest of the school. The funds raised will be donated to Dementia Jersey. The children will be asked if they would like to come to school dressed as elves or wearing red/green or festive clothing. Year 2 join us with this activity and normally organised a cake sale, so if purchasing an elf costume, you may like to get one that may fit next year too!

Ways to help at home

If you would like to help your child at home then here are some ideas:

- Ordering sets of number cards to 10, 20, then 100,
- Fred-talking to help them read and spell unknown words,
- Recognising and writing their surnames,
- Encouraging them to ensure that letters and numbers are facing the right way,
- Playing games that encourage turn taking and sharing,
- Independently changing,
- Independently opening packets and peeling fruit,
- Learning how to tie shoe laces,
- Saying sentences aloud before they write them.

If you are able to help out with any of our visits, please let me know. In order for the visits to take place, I need to ensure that I meet the correct ratio for adult / child.

I look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Mrs Kim Banks
k.banks@stlawrence.sch.je

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