

Year 1 Newsletter 26.9.25

What a busy fortnight!



The children have settled wonderfully and have fitted an awful lot into the past two weeks. We have enjoyed our first gymnastics session with Gail this week and have been working on our ball control skills with Nick in our PE lessons on Fridays. Today we have also enjoyed spending time in each of the Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms to learn about different European countries as part of the European Day of Languages. We have begun learning our songs for the Harvest Assembly so we have no doubt you'll be hearing about tractors, vegetables, mice and scarecrows a lot over the next two weeks! We are very excited for you to come and hear us!



Curriculum

In maths we have been exploring measures and making use of the natural resources outside to help us. We went on a hunt for things that were longer/taller or shorter than our stick and tried hard to keep using our new star words—tall, taller, tallest, long, longer, longest, short, shorter and shortest. We also collected sticks of different lengths and ordered them from shortest to longest. In our Mastering Number sessions we have been looking for the 5 in numbers 6,7,8 and 9 and learning how many more 5 needs to make each number.

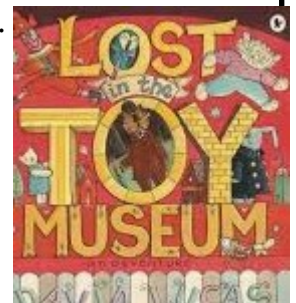


Our focus in RE this term is Christianity. We began by thinking about belonging and shared the different groups we are part of, such as our families, our school, football teams, and gymnastics clubs. We then explored a variety of Christian churches and noticed many features they have in common, such as the cross, bell towers, and stained glass windows. We have also been learning about the Bible, a very special book for Christians. The children looked at different versions of the Bible and discovered that, although the covers may look different, the words inside are the same.

Last week in English, we loved reading the story 'Lost in the Toy Museum'.



We could not believe it when the worry monsters left us a note asking us to find them! They were playing hide and seek with us, just like the toys in the story. It was very exciting to follow the notes they left us and we finally found them hiding on the climbing frame with all the animals from our vet role play. We then had a go at making our own



notes and recreating the game with small world characters. We have also used adjectives to describe different toys and learned how to add s to a noun to make it plural.

To find out more about what Year 1 will be learning this half term, please follow the link [Year 1 Overview](#) to our half termly overview.

Important Messages

- Please check all of your child's clothing to ensure it has their name inside. Over the course of a day, jumpers and cardigans often get mixed up and when children are running around outside they sometimes take off their coat when they get too warm. It is easier and faster to return clothing to the correct child if their name is clearly visible. Thank you for your support.



Reading Assessment information

There is information about how we teach and assess reading on the Year 1 page of our school website, you can find it here [Southridge First School - Year 1 Class Page](#). In addition we will be hosting a drop in between 3:30 and 4:45pm on Thursday 2nd October. This is an opportunity to come in and look at the different reading books children will use during the year and look more closely at the kind of assessments we do and how we make decisions about when a child is ready to move on. If you are unable to make this session, we will also have reading books available to look at during our upcoming parent consultations.

Fun Friends

As part of our PSHE this half term we have been running the 'Fun Friends' program designed by connect mental health. We have been talking about different emotions and exploring how each one looks on our faces and bodies, we discovered that it does not look the same for everyone! We have also talked about thumbs up and thumbs down choices and how it can be difficult to always make thumbs up choices when we feel particular emotions. To support this we have been learning different relaxation techniques which could help us when we are not in the 'green zone' e.g. we are feeling sad, poorly or tired (blue zone), worried, excited or a bit cross (yellow zone) or really angry or frightened (red zone). The technique we have been working on this week is robot jellyfish. When we say robot, the children have to tense every part of their body as much as they can. When we say jellyfish, they have to make their body floppy. We do this a few times and it can really help to release any tension they are holding. Try it at home and let us know how you get on!

Nut-free Packed Lunches and Snacks

Please can we remind parents not to send in packed lunch items or snacks which contain nuts. We have children in school with extremely serious nut allergies. We appreciate your help in this matter.

Important Dates

Thursday 2nd October—drop in to look at reading and assessment in Year 1 classrooms 3:30-4:45pm.

Thursday 9th October—Year 1 Harvest Assembly 2:30pm

Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th October—Parent consultations 3:30-6:30pm

Tuesday 14th October—Year 1 trip to St. Mary's Church

Friday 24th October—Pirate Day (The children are invited to come dressed as a pirate for the day to launch the start of our new topic 'Welcome to Pirate Island'. No need to buy a costume, a stripy top and a homemade eyepatch will ensure a place on board our ship!)

Our Fabulous Pupils!

We have had a great couple of weeks with your children and appreciate your ongoing support.



Southridge First School

'Proud to Make a Positive Impact'

