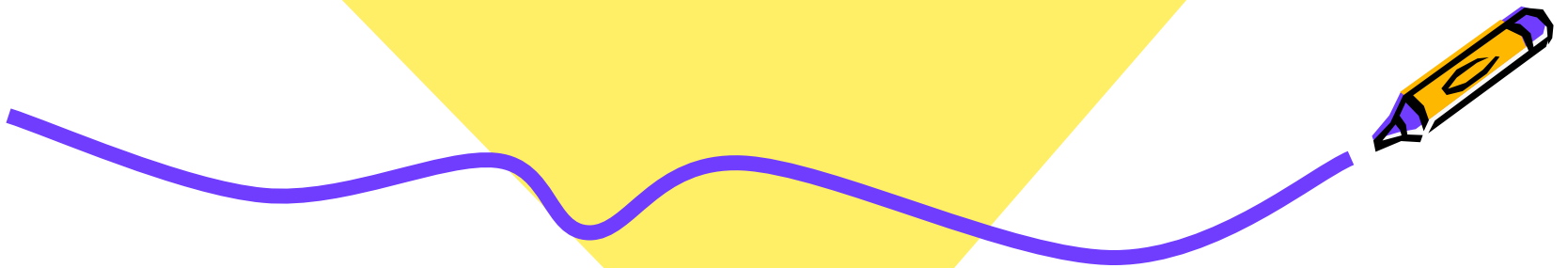




Welcome to Key Stage 1

Year 1 Information and Routines



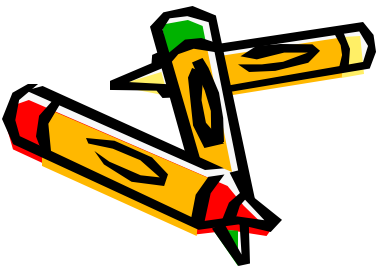
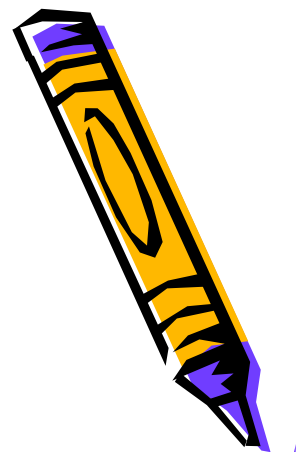
Year 1 Staff Team



Miss Cassidy
Class Teacher



Mrs Pringle
Class Teacher



Transition and Housekeeping

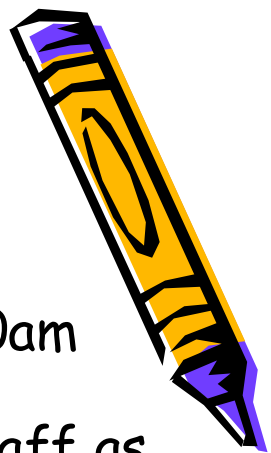


- We continue to work on developing the children's independence and resilience.
- Children are taught in small groups with access to continuous provision throughout the autumn term.
- During the year we build up to whole class teaching by the end of Year 1.
- Please provide a pair of wellies for the children to use outside.
- Put names in everything!
- A small keyring on a bookbag can be helpful.
- Please support us in ensuring children leave their own toys at home.

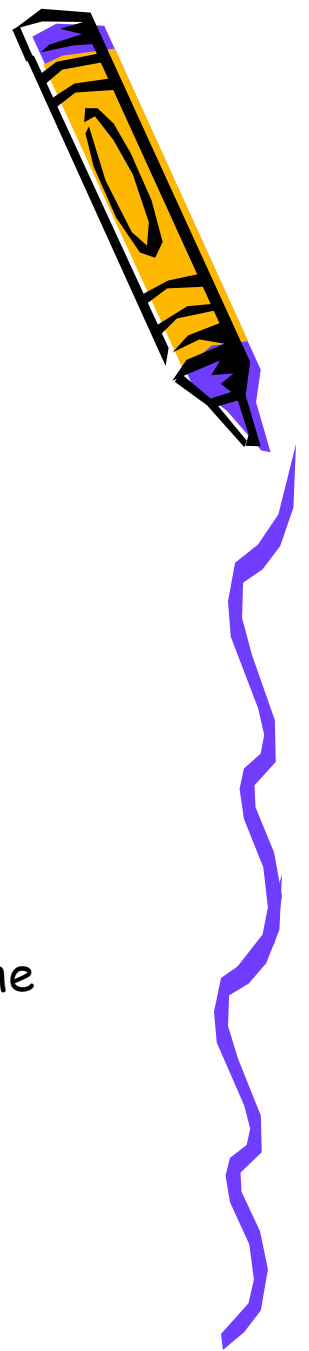


Routines

- The cloakroom doors will be open between 8:40 and 8:50am
- School starts at 8:50am
- Quick queries or messages can be passed on to year 1 staff as they see the children in.
- If your child is in Breakfast Club you can leave a message with the staff there or leave a message with the main school office staff and we will always endeavour to get back to you by the end of the school day.
- If you are late and the door has closed please bring your child to the main school office.
- At 3.20pm we will open the Year 1 classroom doors so that you can collect your child from the member of staff on the door.
- Please always let school know if someone different is picking your child up.



Our School Core Values



- Respect
 - Responsibility
 - Honesty
 - Kindness
 - Friendship
- We place great emphasis on our school values
 - These are linked to our expectations in terms of behaviour and attitudes.
 - The core values run through everything we do and are key to the success children have in school.



Southridge First School

'Proud to Make a Positive Impact'

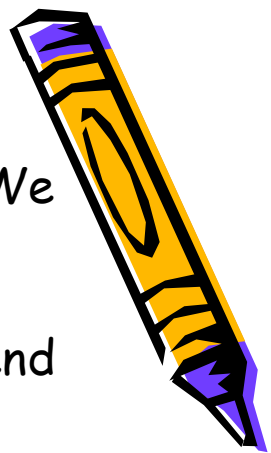
Celebrations

- **Lighthouse points** - children are awarded lighthouse points for good work, lovely manners, kindness, being helpful, good listening etc. These are combined for the whole school during our Friday Celebration Assembly. At the end of every half-term the lighthouse with the most points wins a treat.
- During our Friday Celebration assembly children from each class are nominated for a **Headteacher's Award**.
- Every 3 weeks we have a '**You and Me Award**' where the children nominate a classmate for demonstrating one or more of our core values.
- **Lighthouse Table** on Fridays - children are chosen by the lunchtime staff to sit on a special table with Mr Willcock - perhaps because they have lovely table manners or have been helpful at lunchtime, have tried different foods or maybe they always remember to say please and thank you at the hatch. In the summer term this became 'Campfire Friday' where the children eat their lunch around a campfire!
 - We also love to celebrate **children's achievements** from out of school. So, any certificates for sport or music etc. can be brought in on Fridays.



P.E.

- The children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days. We will let you know the children's PE days each half term.
- If your child is attending an after school sports club, please send their kit in a bag with them on the morning of the club.
- No jewellery should be worn at school. Long hair should always be tied back in school.
- PE kit should consist of maroon shorts, a white t-shirt, black jogging trousers or leggings and trainers. They should also wear their school jumper or cardigan.



Communication



- Once the children enter Year 1 you will receive:
 - a fortnightly newsletter from Year 1 staff
 - our whole school newsletter which is sent out every month.
- In our newsletters we always let you know what the children are learning, we hope this helps to facilitate discussions at home and to give you an insight into what your child is doing at school. You can also find further information about our curriculum on the school website.
- Year 1 staff are available to chat every morning on the door for quick messages, or you can request an email, phone call or meeting.



Reading



- Why it is so important:
"Reading for pleasure is more important for children's cognitive development than their parents' level of education and is a more powerful factor in life achievement than socio-economic background." *Sullivan and Brown (2013) [Social inequalities in cognitive scores at age 16: The role of reading](#)*
- Reading book bags should come to school *every day*.



- Each child will be given a specific day to read as part of a group with a teacher.
- This day may change during the year, but we will always let you know when days are changing.
- Once a week the children are given 2 books for the week from our reading scheme to read at home.
- They will share one of these books with the teacher as part of a guided reading group.
- Each child's reading is approached individually depending on whether they are working on their decoding of individual words, their fluency when reading longer sentences or deepening their understanding of their books.
- We encourage them to read other books at home that particularly interest them **and** encourage you to read to your children on a regular basis.
- Re-reading books is very important to build up the children's confidence, fluency and support their understanding of the text.
- Talking about what they have read and linking it to what they know also supports their comprehension.



We will be holding a reading information session in the autumn term to provide you with more detailed information about reading in Year 1.



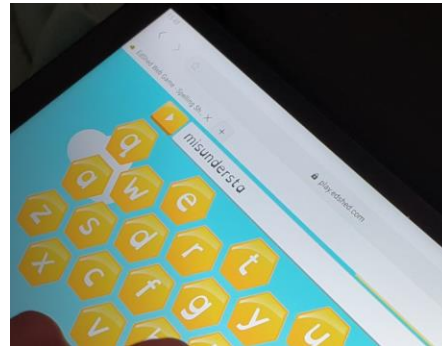
Moving children to the next reading level

- Children's reading skills develop at different rates.
- The children are assessed regularly throughout the year to help us determine the most appropriate level of book for them.
- This assessment takes into account their knowledge of sounds, their ability to apply these sounds to words with confidence and the pace of their reading.
- We also regularly assess the children's understanding of the text and use our guided reading sessions to help develop this.



Spelling

- Spelling is taught weekly, and the skills practiced daily.
- Children will practice independently as part of 'morning work'.
- Children will practice more formally as part of daily literacy lessons.
- Teachers will assess progress by monitoring children's work.
- Practice can still take place at home through Spelling Shed, but there will be no weekly test.



Phonics Screener

In June, Year 1 children complete a phonics check. This is done in school and the children are not aware they are doing it. They are shown 40 words which they are asked to read. This is no different to anything that they have encountered in the course of the year.



Mastering Number

- This is a national program which aims to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to year 1 and year 2.
- The aim over time is that children will leave KS1 with fluency in calculation and a confidence and flexibility with number.
- These are short, 10-15 minute daily sessions.
- The children will use manipulatives such as rekenreks, tens frames and double sided counters.



Curriculum

Building on the wonderful experiences in Reception we have an exciting curriculum in Year 1:

Our current topics are Terrific Toys, Pirate Island, Amazing Animals, Growing, Our Local Area and The Seaside.

We have lots of activities with the whole school e.g. Arts Week, STEM Week and Sports week, a Faith and Diversity day, an Internet Safety Day, European Day of Languages etc. So, the children have a busy time!



Outdoor Learning



- It enhances our already exciting curriculum
- Supports children's mental well-being
- Provides opportunities for cross-curricular links
- Children love it!



designed by EmmaCattell

Relationship Education

- Relationships Education is compulsory in all primary schools in England.
- We are a first school and the focus of our curriculum is on the children developing healthy and respectful relationships.

Key Aspects of Relationship Education:

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful relationships
- Online relationships
- Being safe



Relationships Education update 2026-2027

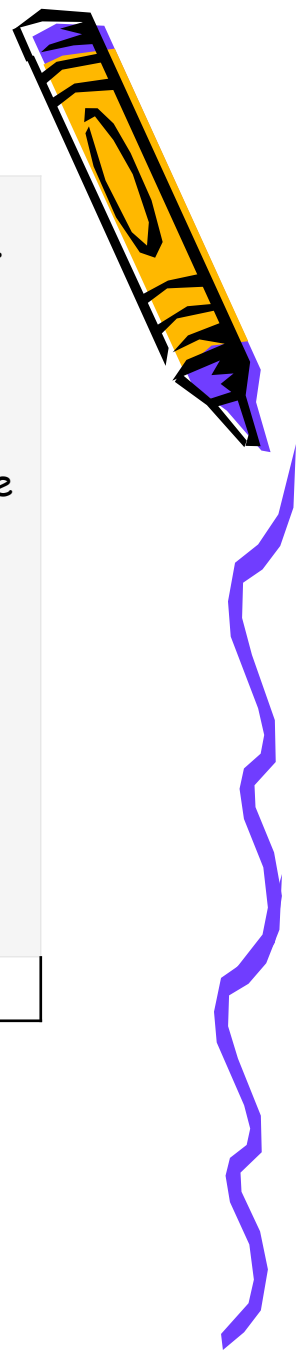
Relationships Education in schools is becoming increasingly embedded and is now compulsory, meaning that there is no opt-out for parents. It teaches children about healthy relationships, including the concepts of friendship and privacy.

This subject does not involve sex education, which continues to be taught in middle or secondary schools. However, children are taught the correct names for parts of their body, which supports safeguarding where required, as well as learning about the concept of puberty.

Information about Relationships Education within our Personal, Social, Emotional and Health (PSE/REd) curriculum can be found on our school website. It is carefully woven through our Jigsaw programme across the year, alongside our core values, enrichment opportunities, and weekly assemblies.

Monitoring shows that all children feel safe to express their own views and opinions.

Our children are provided with varied and diverse opportunities to apply their learning throughout their time at Southridge.

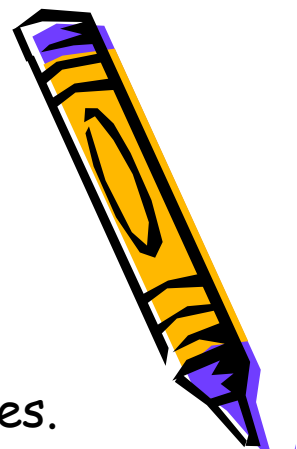


Educational Visits

Educational visits enhance learning by providing hands-on experiences. They enrich our curriculum and offer diverse learning opportunities.

Educational Visits in Year 1 have included:

- St Mary's Church - RE, PSHE
- Centre for Life - Science
- The Glass House - Music



Farmer Gus



- Every half term we have a video call with Farmer Gus.
- The children get to see what is happening on Thistleyhaugh Farm in Northumberland.
- We meet the animals and learn about the jobs Farmer Gus has to do on the farm.
- It is interesting to hear how things change over the year which links nicely with our science unit on seasonal change.
- In each session, the children can ask Farmer Gus questions about the animals and his farm.



After-school Clubs

In Year 1 the children have the opportunity to try something new. Different clubs are offered at different times of year and have previously included:

- Yoga
- Football
- Engineering
- Origami
- Multi-skills
- Art
- Gymnastics
- Lingotots

These clubs are signed up for in 5 week blocks. If your child does sign up to a club and it is not to their taste, we do ask that you encourage them to complete all five weeks - it helps to build resilience.



Medicines



- Over the holidays please check any medicines your child requires in school are in date.
- Keep the office informed of any changes over the holiday or throughout the year.



Finally:-

We hope you have a restful and enjoyable Summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all again in September.

karen.pringle@southridgefirst.org.uk

catherine.cassidy@southridgefirst.org.uk

