

Dear Magpie Parents,

Welcome to Magpie Class. I am looking forward to an exciting year of learning with a stimulating curriculum, engaged and enthusiastic learners and supportive parents.



We have made a great start to the year developing new routines and expectations and getting to know each other.

Our Teaching Team

I will teach the class every day. Mrs Stainer will teach the class for PPA (planning, preparation and assessment) time on Thursday afternoons and for Term 1 she will teach guided reading, science and music. We will work closely to share planning and assessment information and also rotate the subjects that Mrs Stainer teaches throughout the year.

Mrs Stainer and Miss Hill will support the children in our class throughout day. They will support Magpie children in the classroom and for some sessions will provide small group and individual interventions.

The children are provided with a piece of fruit or a vegetable for morning snack and can have a healthy snack from home for the afternoon which could be a plain/fruit cereal bar or piece of fruit/vegetables. Crisps and chocolate should not be in snack boxes! Please also send children with a bottle of water each day.

Magpies have PE on Monday and Friday, starting with pirate dance and net and wall skills. They will need to come into school on these days wearing their PE kit. As well as PE, we will have daily movement breaks and use our school running track to keep active.

We will continue to use the outdoors in our learning, so please can all children bring a pair of wellies to keep in school, and a coat too!

The curriculum

Please see our class page on the school website for our Long Term plan detailing our learning for the year ahead.

Home Learning

I look forward to establishing a successful partnership, which will enable your child to flourish. I urge you to support your child at home with their reading, spelling, phonics, maths and enquiry skills. Your support at home makes a huge difference. We have designed a timetable that supports their continued learning and engages them through the choices on offer but also lets children meet other commitments and have time to switch off too. Home learning will be set each week (unless stated otherwise) on a **Wednesday** and will need to be completed and shared by **Tuesday morning**.

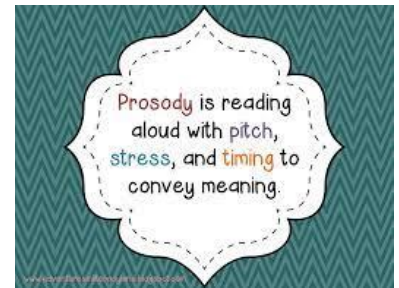
St Aldhelm's Home Learning
Term 1 2024

Weekly skills practice as a minimum
Read and Respond phonic book for 10-15 minutes four times plus additional time to read a sharing book together. 1 dojo for reading 4 times, 2 dojo's for a summary of weekly sharing book reads.
Spelling and handwriting practice – in homework book - for 5 minutes 3 times per week.
Number activity – in homework book.

Home Learning will commence on Wednesday 17th September.

As last year, we set the expectation that children should read at least four times a week. Regular reading is an absolute essential to supporting your child's development. We are very fortunate to have been able to invest in lots of wonderful decodable phonic books to support our phonic programme. Each child will have one phonic book, which is closely matched to their reading level and will be changed weekly. This gives your child the opportunity to read and then re-read their book to build fluency, word recognition and prosody.

Also through discussion, children will be able to consider vocabulary meanings, retell, sequence the story and gain an understanding of what they have read. In addition to the decodable phonic book, children will choose a 'sharing book' which is intended to be read together (not for your child to read to you!). Reading these books together will allow children to further their love of reading, explore a wide range of books and also to increase their vocabulary development.



Reading at home

- 5 – 10 minutes
- Choose a time that works for you
- Be positive and celebrate successes
- Encourage them to point to the graphemes
- Encourage them to say the sounds and blend them together
- Be patient and let them try and work it out
- Read common exception words by sight.

Reading at home

- Continue to read to your child.
- Model how to read a book – left to right turning pages
- Ask questions about what has happened and characters' feelings
- Support vocabulary
- Predict what will happen next
- Make connections
- Model your love of reading!

In challenging financial times, the school has invested a vast amount of money in these books. Please do look after these books so that they can be enjoyed by many children in the future! If possible, please keep them inside a plastic wallet in their bag to keep them as safe as possible!

Behaviour expectations: Already this term, we have worked on remembering and re-establishing our school rules (Ready, Respectful and Safe) and learning behaviours. Children will continue to earn Class Dojo points when they are seen to be going above and beyond the standard expectations. This may be in pieces of work they produce; answers they give and how they conduct themselves around the school. We will continue to reward whole classes as they reach the Dojo point milestones.

Communication: if you have any questions or queries then please do ask! Please do come and ask at the end of the day or via Class Dojo. I am not always able to check Class Dojo during the school day and so if you have an urgent message, especially regarding alternative pick up arrangements, please do email or telephone the office.



Please come to talk to me if any problems arise or if you have any queries.

Many thanks
Chloe Mason

Magpies Class Teacher