

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope this letter finds you well during this challenging and strange time. It has been lovely getting to know your children over the past week or so and we are very much looking forward to having a busy, happy and productive school year. We are very fortunate to have Miss Bartesaghi and Miss Olejnik working with us in Year 1, supporting the children in a range of activities. Unfortunately current arrangements mean I am not available to talk to you before or after school but please do not hesitate to contact me via the office email or telephone or by writing a note in the reading record if you if you have any concerns.

Reading

Please spend 10 minutes every day reading in a quiet place with your child. We aim to read with each of the children at least twice a week and teach daily whole class phonics lessons. However, for the children to really make excellent progress with their reading we need your support. Please refer to any targets written into your child's reading record when reading with them, ask your child about what he/she has read, talk about the characters in the story and ask them to begin to predict what might happen next. Please record each time your child has read in their reading record book. Feel free to add any comments you wish to make about his/her reading. Thank you in advance for all your support with the children's reading.

Additionally, you may like to support your child's progress with reading further by providing them with opportunities to access 'Teach your Monster to Read'. An award-winning series of games, it helps children to master the key first stages of reading. It's free to play on a PC and laptop at TeachYourMonsterToRead.com, or you can download the Teach Your Monster to Read app from the app store on phones and tablets. You can log in to your child's game using the details on your child's password card which has been stuck in the front of their reading record.

Homework

A short maths task will be sent home every Friday to be returned to school by the following Friday. The children work very hard during the school day but it is important that their learning at school is reinforced and consolidated at home.

Spellings

The children will have a short spelling test every Friday morning linked to their phonics learning. Please support your child with their spellings by talking about the meaning of each word and helping them to sound each word out carefully before trying to write them down from memory. The children will bring home their spelling test book on Friday so that you can see how they got on and any spellings that need to be revisited.



Jesus lives in us, our families, our school, our Church, our world. Jesus is our guide, let us follow Him
At St Margaret Clitherow School we are committed to Safeguarding Children

Book Bags

It is important the children have their book bag in school every day. Please check the bag each evening for any bumped head notes or school letters.

Snack

The children are provided with a piece of fruit every morning before break time. Feel free to send in your own piece of fruit from home to be eaten during this time if you like to.

Uniform

We encourage the children to be as independent as possible in Year 1. Please help by ensuring that all uniform is clearly named. Children should wear suitable footwear which they are able to manage without help, if possible. A coat is needed every day as we often work outside and we never know what the weather will bring. We will make the most of opportunities for the children to work outside whenever appropriate. Wellington boots or suitable waterproof shoes, clearly named, would be appreciated. It would be most convenient if these could be left at school to be used whenever we need them. We have a locker for each child so belongings can be stored conveniently in school. Please remember our lockers are not huge, any bags that are brought into school should be small enough to allow the locker to close.

PE

PE lessons take place on Wednesday and Friday each week and the lessons are taught by Mr Moran. Please send your child into school in their PE kit on these days so that they do not need to change at school. They will need to wear shorts or joggers depending on the weather and a t-shirt and their school jumper, as well as their trainers. Please also send your child's school shoes in with them so that they can change into them after their lesson if it has been muddy outside.

If your child wears ear studs and cannot remove them unaided, please provide a roll of surgical tape to cover the studs. Please remember only plain studs are allowed in school. No hooped earrings should be worn.

RSE

This term, we will be delivering part of our Sex and Relationships programme. In Year 1, we will be covering lessons on feelings, friendships and keeping clean.

Keep an eye on the school website for information about what is happening in Year 1. We enjoy sharing our work on the school blog.

May I thank you once again for your support and co-operation. I look forward to working with your children this year and working with you to support their emotional, spiritual and academic development.

Yours sincerely,

Ms A. Coleman
Year 1 Class Teacher

