



**Year 1  
Newsletter  
08.09.23**

Welcome to Year 1! Let me start by introducing myself and the support staff that will be working in Year 1 this year. My name is Mrs Straw and I have been teaching at KSS for many years. Alongside me is the ever organised Mrs Matthews who I have worked with for most of this time. Mrs Matthews has extensive experience having worked in schools for over 14 years, as a one to one support TA and as a class based TA. We are joined this year by the wonderful Mr Moriarty who will be spending some time supporting us in class. This half term our topic is: **Who I am & Where I live**. In our newsletters I try and give you an insight into what your child is doing in school and ideas for things you could do at home to support this- although these are totally optional. I hope it is helpful!

### **Creative development**

There will be ample opportunity for creativity during the day in our creative area provision. Junk modelling, Pom poms, pipe cleaner, googly eye donations gratefully received! Our Art lessons will be on the skill of printing.

**Maybe you could:** Go outside and do a leaf rubbing.

### **Personal & Social Development, wellbeing & cultural diversity**

Our focus will be on classroom rules and behaviour as well as the rules of our country (known as British Values).

**Maybe you could:** Think about jobs and rules you have at home and how these are similar/different from school rules and expectations.

### **Physical Development**

Playtimes are plentiful in Year 1 and we enjoy lots of active learning inside and outside of the classroom. PE is on a Tuesday, please come in your kit.

**Maybe you could:** Go for regular walks in nature. Not only is this great for burning off energy but it's great for mental health and nature knowledge/vocabulary too!

**Homework, spelling and reading:** Homework and spelling will be set via class dojo. **Please complete this with your child each week.** It shouldn't take too long, but should give you an insight into expectations in class. Spelling should be practiced throughout the week- if it is tricky for them, focus on one word to start with and when they start getting that correct in their weekly spellings, move on to learning 2 per week. In an ideal world, a child will read nightly at home (even a sentence) but I know this isn't always achievable. Mrs Matthews takes the lead with reading books and records and she's always around at the end of the day to answer any questions you may have.

### **Knowledge & Understanding of the world**

The National Curriculum target is to know the countries and capitals of the UK. However, I am hoping the children get a good understanding of where they live (Leeds) and know our capital city is London at a minimum.

**Maybe you could:** Ensure your child knows their street address and the city they live in. Explore the local area and discuss landmarks in both London and Leeds.

### **Language, Literacy & communication**

In English we will read stories with familiar settings, then move on to stories about friendship before learning about labels, lists and signs.

**Maybe you could:** Spot signs out and about- what do they say and what do they mean?  
**Please try and read with your child every day in some capacity.**

### **Mathematical Development**

This half term will focus on place value within 10, and sorting objects into groups saying what is similar or different. This will potentially progress to include doubles and halves to ten and number bonds to ten.

**Maybe you could:** Practice instant recognitions of amounts (known as subitising) by rolling a dice when playing a game or playing dominoes!

### **Key dates for your diary:**

20<sup>th</sup> September 2023- Mini First Aid course for each child – donations of £6 to cover the visitor and their talk, the mini first aid course and the certificate will be available to pay from the week before