



WHITFIELD ST JAMES' CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL



Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Parent Partnership Newsletter: Autumn Term 1 2021

We hope you had an enjoyable summer and a big hello to all our new children and their families who are joining us this term! Unfortunately, we were unable to go ahead with the transition visits but rest assured we aim to make this transition process of settling into school as smooth as possible. Please do speak to us if you have any concerns and we will do our best to make this an enjoyable experience.

Our first topic is called "*Me and My Community*." This project supports children with settling into the new rules and routines of school and encourages them to make new friends and feel confident in their class. It teaches children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and at school. This project also teaches children how they are unique and special, the importance of friendship and how people in their family, school and local community are important and can help them.

We will then lead into our next topic called "*Exploring Autumn*." This project teaches children about the natural changes that happen during the season of autumn, including how the weather changes, why trees lose their leaves and how wild animals prepare for winter.

What to bring in and leave at school

- A drawstring bag (no plastic bags for safety reasons) containing a spare change of clothes including underwear and socks. This will stay at school on your child's coat peg.

What to bring in every day

- A waterproof coat – everyday, clearly labelled with your child's name.
- A Book bag (this fits perfectly in your child's tray for any pictures home and, when your child is ready, a reading book). Please don't send in rucksacks, there is no room on pegs and they don't fit into their trays – thank you.
- A named water bottle containing water (not juice) – this will go home daily for washing and refilling. Everyone also has access to milk at the snack station – please do sign up for free milk <https://www.coolmilk.com/>
- If your child is having a packed lunch – a lunch bag, clearly labelled with their name. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal.

Bluebell class will need to come into school wearing their PE kit every Tuesday. Mr Doyle will cover Mrs Allan's PPA on a Tuesday afternoon and teach the children PE.

Staffing

Teachers

Mrs Allan – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Mrs Cox – Wednesday

Teaching Assistants

Mrs Colgan – Full time
Mrs Grant – will join us for the beginning of the year to support transition from Nursery

Headteacher: Mr C Woodward

office@st-jamesprimary.co.uk

HLTA

Mr Doyle – PPA Cover

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us by email or speak to the class teacher directly. The end of the school day is a good time once all the children have been handed over to their respective adults. Please refrain from posting on social media and contact the class teacher or Early Years Team Leader directly.

We look forward to getting to know you and your children this year.

Mrs Allan & Mrs Cox

bluebell@st-james.derbyshire.sch.uk