



C.E CONTROLLED
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mrs Sarah Briggs
Headteacher
BEd (Hons) NPQH

Merlin Class Newsletter Autumn 1st half term 2026

Topics this term:

Welcome to Sale and Davys Merlin class. This half term our topic is 'All about me'. We will be exploring this through all areas of the EYFS and KS1 curriculums.

Reception Children will be learning about special people, our senses and our local area. In Maths we will be matching, sorting and comparing numbers within 10 and practicing adding and taking away. We will be using objects and practical equipment to help with all aspects of our maths and will be learning about 2D shape and comparing Size, Mass, and Capacity. In Literacy we will be beginning our reading journey, learning to hear the initial sound in words and begin to recognise single letter sounds during our phonics sessions. We also learn how to hold a pencil correctly and begin to practice letter formation.

Year 1 children will be studying Humans and their bodies in Science, Who is a Christian in RE, Our local area, routes and directions in Geography, and Paul Klee's work in Art. In PSHE they will be considering the importance of rules, sharing and responsibility in our topic 'Being Responsible'. Maths in Year 1 is taught using the White Rose scheme and this half term we will be studying place value and addition and subtraction including work on more, less, grouping, counting and problem solving. Our English work will be focus on reading and writing with particular attention on skill development in spelling, handwriting, dictation, composition and comprehension.

PE will be on **Monday** and **Friday** each week.

Please send your children to school wearing their PE kit and trainers on these days.

As we enter the Autumn season we recommend the School PE kit for colder months. This is: Plain navy tracksuit or sweatshirt and jogging bottoms with black or white trainers. Children with long hair must wear their hair tied back with a band.

Class Books: We will be enjoying and exploring a variety of text types this term including stories, non-fiction texts and rhymes. In Reception we will look at the features of our class books and answer questions about the stories and information we hear. In Year 1 we will be completing comprehension activities and written tasks to develop out reading and writing fluency. Reception Children will be reading: Splat the cat, Pip and Posy- The New Friend, Autumn Poems, Houses and homes, Naughty Bus and Oliver's Vegetable's. Year 1 Children will be exploring When the dragon went to school, Elmer, Home, What's inside me? and non fiction texts about the local area.

Reception Homework:

*Reading books- Your child has chosen their first reading book. This is a book without words aimed at developing their skills of pictorial interpretation and verbal story telling skills. Please read with your child as often as possible. Talk about the pictures, Where is the story set? Who are the characters? What is happening in the story? What might happen next? How are the characters feeling? Why? Support and encourage your child to answer these sorts of questions as fully as possible.



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*Homework Book: Simple homework tasks relating to our Topic, Maths or Phonics will be put in these books. Please support your child to have a go at these and return the book every Thursday. This will be sent home in 2-3 weeks time.

*Purple Mash- Shortly your child's login details will be sent home stuck in the back of their Yellow reading diary. Have a go at logging in and exploring the Mini Mash activities.

Year 1 Homework:

*Reading books- Your child will continue to progress through the reading scheme. They will bring a reading book home to share with you and will be heard to read each week in school.

*Spelling practice: Spellings will be sent home on a Monday and tested the following Monday. Please use the Look, say, cover, write check method to practice the spellings.

*Homework Book: A topic related homework grid will be sent home each half term for your child to choose homework tasks to complete and return each Thursday, along with the maths task.

Any other useful information:

As we enter the Autumn, the weather will continue to be unpredictable. Please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate clothing ie a sun hat, a waterproof coat with a hood and a water bottle. We learn and play inside and outside every day.