



Mather Street Primary School

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Year 1 Newsletter

Autumn Half Term 1 – September 2026

Attendance

Well done to all the children who have attended school every day so far this school year. Please remember that holidays in term time are classified as unauthorised absences and could lead to a fixed penalty notice being issued. When children's attendance is below 90%, parents will be asked to provide medical evidence when children are absent from school due to illness.

Studybugs

School communicates with parents via Studybugs. This also enables parents/careers to contact school staff. If you need to send medical evidence for absence due to illness, please send it via email to attendance@matherstreet.oldham.sch.uk

Meet the Teacher meeting

9am Tuesday 15th September in the school hall. Please come along to meet Miss Sarsfield and find out about the year ahead in Year 1.

Clubs

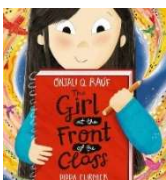
Thursdays – starting 17th September 2026 – Zumba. Please collect the children from the main office at 4pm.

PE

Year 1 PE lessons are on Fridays, school provides the children with PE kits, but the children need pumps or trainers. The topics for PE will be multi-skills focusing on running and jumping.

English – Reading and Writing

Our texts for this term are – The Girl at the Front of the Class by Onjali Q. Raúf and King Lion by Emma Yarlett. The writing outcomes for this term are to be able to write friendship story sentences (to entertain) and instruction sentences (to inform). The children will have opportunities to work collaboratively to share and discuss their thoughts and feelings surrounding the text. To promote a love of writing, pupils will be allowed the opportunity to share their hard work with an audience.



In reading, each pupil will be able to choose a book at their level to read for enjoyment (reading for pleasure). Books will be sent home by the end of each week. Books are to be returned the following Thursday to ensure that records are kept up to date and books can be changed. Using up to date assessments, we will ensure that the children are being challenged appropriately whilst promoting a love for reading. The children will be provided with a journal to log any reading at home with an adult and this will be monitored weekly.

Maths

In maths, pupils will begin with the unit: Place value (within 10) before progressing onto addition and subtraction.

Using the school's CPA approach, we will support pupils to identify and represent numbers using concrete objects and pictorial representations. The children will be introduced to key language: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least, and will be encouraged to use this language to develop their reasoning skill. The children will be supported to read, interpret and write mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals signs (=).

Pupils will be re-capping methods and knowledge previously taught in arithmetic sessions to improve fluency and speed.

History

The topic for the first three weeks of the half-term is all about finding more about ourselves (past, present) as we will look to answer the question: 'How am I making history?'.

By the end of the unit, the children will know some similarities and differences between the past and their own lives. They will have become more familiar with what timeline is and recognise that shows the order events in the past happened. We will be discussing some personal and shared memories from their childhood – first birthday, key events (Christmas, Eid, birthdays, etc.) and will have the opportunity to ask an adult about their childhood to see how it differs from theirs.

Science

The topic for the following couple of weeks will be Human body/Seasonal Changes (Autumn).

Pupils will identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense. They will also observe seasonal change in Autumn – including weather change and day/night length.

RE/ PSHE

PSHE and RE lessons will take place on a weekly basis.

In PSHE, this term the children will begin with the unit: My healthy self: How can we look after our emotions?

In RE, the children will begin with the unit: C1.1 What does it mean to belong to a community of belief? (Pathway 1 The Nature of Religion and Belief – Christianity, Islam, Judaism; with a focus on key celebrations: Diwali, Christmas).

Art

In Art, we will be focusing on 'Drawing: Exploring line and shape'. The children will be working and experimenting with different materials through observational and collaborative pieces inspired by artists. The children will practise drawing different types of lines by varying control and pressure, identify 2D shapes within objects/pictures and explore texture, tone and pattern.

Design and Technology

Our unit this term is: Mechanisms – Matching slider game. We will explore different types of mechanisms used in products, with a focus on how sliding mechanisms create movement.

Computing

Computing is taught weekly – our first unit will be: Computing Systems and Networks: Improving Mouse Skills.

We will also begin to introduce the importance of staying safe online.

Music

The Oldham Music Service will be delivering weekly music lessons on a Thursday. The unit for this term is pulse and rhythm, with a focus on identifying the beat and pattern of sounds in the music.

Homework

Homework will be **set every Friday**.

It will be required by the next Friday.

Homework will be set for three subjects: maths, spelling and English. Pupils will have a spelling test weekly. It is expected that all homework is completed. A log will be kept of pupils who completed homework tasks.

Kind regards
Miss Sarsfield

Holidays

Autumn half term – School finishes on Friday 23rd October 2026 at 3:20pm and reopens on Monday 2nd November 2026.