

Dolphin Class

Year 1 & 2



Ireleth St Peter's C of E Primary School
Autumn Term 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Dolphin Class! We hope you have all had a wonderful and restful summer break. It has been lovely welcoming the children back into school and beginning our new year together in Year 1 and Year 2.

We are really looking forward to an exciting year ahead and to watching the children grow in confidence, independence and enthusiasm for their learning. We have lots of exciting opportunities planned for the term and cannot wait to get started!

Class Structure

Mrs Gribbin will teach Dolphin Class throughout the week from Monday to Friday. On Monday mornings, the children will have their P.E. session with Mr Davis. On Tuesday afternoons, Miss Shaw will teach the class while Mrs Gribbin takes her allocated PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) time.

Each morning, the children will focus primarily on English, Maths and Phonics, alongside regular handwriting and reading activities. Our afternoon sessions will provide opportunities to explore the wider curriculum, including PE., RE., PSHE, Science, Art, Design Technology, History, Geography and Music.

Equipment

Please ensure your child brings one school bag or backpack each day which is large enough to hold their reading folder and everything they need for the school day.

Reading folders must be brought into school every day, as the children will need their reading books as part of their daily phonics lessons. Reading books will only be changed once the current book has been read, rather than on a set day each week.

Throughout Year 1 and Year 2, we encourage the children to develop their independence and take responsibility for their own belongings. Please ensure that all clothing, P.E. kit, water bottles, bags and other personal items are clearly named to help us return anything that may go missing!

Curriculum:

Math's

For Maths, we will continue to follow the White Rose Maths scheme of learning, developing children's fluency, problem-solving and reasoning skills through practical activities and opportunities to explain their mathematical thinking.

Each morning, children will also complete Fluent in Five as part of our morning routine. This consists of five short Maths questions each day, designed to build confidence, fluency and recall of key mathematical skills.

English

This year, we will be using the I Am a Clever Writer approach to develop confident and independent writers. Children will explore a range of exciting texts linked to our learning and use these as inspiration for their own writing. We will have a strong focus on sentence structure, punctuation, spelling and vocabulary, alongside daily handwriting practice to develop fluent and well-presented writing. Children will also continue to take part in daily Read Write Inc. Phonics, supporting their reading, spelling and writing skills.

Topic

Our exciting topic for the Autumn Term is Under the Sea! Throughout the term, the children will dive beneath the waves and explore the wonderful world of our oceans.

We will bring our topic to life through stories, non-fiction texts, art, science, history, geography, music and creative activities, giving the children lots of opportunities to investigate, ask questions and make links across their learning.



P.E

Dolphin Class will have two P.E. sessions each week. On Monday mornings, the children will have P.E. with Mr Davis, our Onside Sports Coach, and Mrs Gribbin will teach their second session on Wednesday afternoons.

For health and safety reasons, all children must have a complete P.E. kit in school in order to take part in P.E. lessons. Please ensure that all P.E. kit and clothing is clearly named.

As we like to get outdoors whenever possible, children should also have suitable warmer clothing, such as a jumper/hoodie and jogging bottoms, during the colder months.

Learning at Home

Homework in KS1 is designed to practise key skills while still leaving plenty of time for children to play, explore and enjoy family time. Each week, we ask children to focus on three simple areas:

-Reading – Read at least 4 times each week and record this in your child's reading record.

-Phonics/spellings – Practise the sounds and words sent home each week.

- Maths – Complete the short Maths Mission of the Week, linked to our current classroom learning.

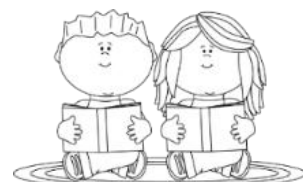
-Children can also choose activities from our Under the Sea Homework Menu throughout the term.

Reading

Reading is a hugely important part of learning in KS1. Please aim to read your child's school reading book at least 4 times each week and record this in their reading record.

Reading folders should be brought into school every day as books will be used during phonics lessons. Books will be changed once they have been read, rather than on a set day each week.

Miss Shaw, our ISP Reading Lead, will oversee the children's reading books and support them as they progress through our reading programme.



Lunches

Parents can order and pay for their child's lunch on the School Grid website or app weeks in advance. Your child can order lunch in school until 9:30am too.



Tuck Shop/Water Bottles

Children have the opportunity to purchase a small snack from our Tuck Shop at break time, and free fruit is also available each day. Last year, we noticed that some children were bringing large amounts of loose change into school for Tuck Shop. Please only send your child with the small amount of money they need for their snack.

Milk

If you would like your child to receive milk daily, please contact Mrs Parkinson in the office to set up a Cool Milk account.



Show & Tell

Each child will be allocated a Show & Tell day. On their day, they may bring one item from home that they would like to share with the class. If it is not your child's show & tell day, please encourage them to leave their toys at home.

Reward System

This year, we will be continuing to use our online behaviour system- 'Class Dojo'. Keep a look out for photos of what we have been up to in Whale Class throughout the year! The following are just some of the ways the children can gain dojo points: -

- Being kind
- Challenging themselves
- Excellent listening
- Secret Cleaner!
- Completing homework
- Reading at home



Once a student reaches 100 Dojo points, they will receive a desk pet as a reward. For every additional 50 points earned, the student can then choose treats and toys for their desk pet.

Furthermore, the class will recognise students through praise from Buddy the class bear who is awarded every Friday, as well as the "Star of the Week" and "Worker of the Month" awards given during school assemblies. If your child reaches 100, 200 or even 300 dojo points, they will receive a special certificate in our Praise Collective Worship on a Friday!

Important Dates:

Thursday 3rd September 2026 – Autumn Term Begins

Monday 14th September 2026 – Extra Curricular clubs start for 5 weeks.

Wednesday 30th September 2026 – Tempest - Individual & Family Photographs

Friday 2nd October – September Worker of the Month

Thursday 15th October – Church Harvest Service 9.30am

Friday 23rd October 2026 – Break for Half Term

Monday 2nd November – Return to school for Autumn 2



As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions, concerns or anything you would like to share throughout the Autumn Term. We really value working closely with our families and appreciate all of your support.

You can contact Mrs Gribbin via Class Dojo or by email at:

bgribbin@irelethst-peters.cumbria.sch.uk

Please note that Class Dojo messages will be responded to during working hours (8:00am–4:00pm). Any messages received outside of these hours will be picked up during the next working day. Thank you for your understanding.

We are really looking forward to a fantastic year together and cannot wait to see all that our Dolphins achieve!

Mrs Gribbin & Miss Shaw

Dolphin Class Team 💖

Our Class Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for our Dolphin Class, for our friends, our teachers and all the people who help us.

Help us to be kind and caring, brave when things are difficult, and ready to learn and grow.

Help us to listen to one another, to celebrate what makes us special, and to always try our best.

May we work together, help one another and show your love in all that we do.

Help us to make our classroom a happy place where everyone belongs.

Amen. 💖

