

RECEPTION CLASS NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome you and your children to St Mary's and to the beginning of their school journey. The children have settled really well into their new class. They have engaged well with activities, both in the classroom and outside in the playground.

Topic

Each half term we choose a topic to extend the children's knowledge of the outside world. This half term we are looking at all those people with jobs that involve looking after our community. We hope to have visits from local community members such as the Father Steve from St Mary's Church and the Fire Service. If you work in a caring profession, we would love you to come and talk to the class, if you have half an hour to spare.



Read, Write Inc

Reception class have been introduced to our systematic program of phonics called Read, Write Inc. Each day they learn to read and write a new sound. Soon they will be starting 'word time', where they learn to blend sounds to read simple words. **Don't forget, we will be having a 'Meet the Teacher' in school for all Reception parents on Thursday 28th September after school at 3:00PM.** At the meeting, I will be explaining how this phonics system teaches children to become successful readers and writers. I will also be looking at ways you can support your child's literacy skills at home.



Key Dates

- September – we are welcoming any donations for our annual Harvest collection, please donate any non-perishable food items (tins, jars and packets) to support those most in need
- **Tue 26th September – School Photos**
- Wed 27th September 2PM – Harvest worship in St Mary's Church
- **Thu 28th September 3:00PM – Reception Parent Welcome Meeting**
- Tue 11th October – Reading Champions training for parent volunteers
- **Thu 12th October – Reception class led worship**
- **Mon 23rd – Fri 27th October – HALF TERM**
- Sun 5th November 10:00AM – First Communion service at St Mary's Church
- Thu 16th November – PARENTS EVENING
- **Fri 17th November – SCHOOL CLOSED – Inset Day**
- Fri 1st December 3:10PM – Christmas Fayre
- Tue 19th December – 1:00PM – End of Autumn Term
- Tue 9th January - Children return to school for the Spring Term

Key Reminders

- Please be on time at the beginning (8:40) and end (3:10) of the school day
- Please ring the school office if you have arranged for a new person to collect your child



PE

Children should come into school wearing their PE kit on Wednesdays. Clothing for PE kits should be: plain navy blue/black jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt and plain black plimsolls/trainers.



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although watches and plain stud earrings are acceptable.

Clothing

Please make sure that all of your child's items of clothing are clearly labelled with their names. This applies to all items of school uniform, PE kit and coats. School shoes should be plain and black. Also, please send in a bag of spare clothes, in case of accidents.



Home Learning

Home Learning will be set from the end of September. It will be handed out on Friday and should be completed by Tuesday. **There is a clear expectation that every child fully completes their Home Learning every week and we will be keeping a record and contacting parents where this is not the case.**

Reading

It is vital that your child is read to every day. Please complete their reading journal and ensure that they bring it into school. Your child will be given books, which we will aim to change on a weekly basis. If you have any concerns or would like some support with this, then please contact the school.



Appointments - If you have any queries or wish to make an appointment, please ring the School office on 0208 6902613 or email admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk

We greatly value your support with your child's learning.

Miss Burnett, Miss Bennett and Miss Thelma