

RECEPTION CLASS NEWSLETTER










SPRING 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to St Mary's, we hope that you and your family enjoyed a wonderful and peaceful Christmas break. The children have settled well back into the school routines and we are looking forward to our next term of learning together. Your support in ensuring that your child completes their Home Learning every week and reads every day with you will continue to help your child to make accelerated progress and reach their full potential.

Curriculum

Below is an outline of what we will be covering this term:

<p>English</p> 	<p>In Literacy we will be reading <i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</i>, <i>Supertato</i> and <i>Superworm</i> as part of our new topic 'Superheroes and Monsters'. In the second half of term we will move on to <i>Jack & the Beanstalk</i>, <i>Errol's Garden</i> and <i>Oliver's Vegetables</i> for our next topic 'Plant Growth'. We will focus on innovating and changing a known text, identifying key features of information texts, writing speech bubbles and character description, and much more!</p>
<p>Phonics and Reading</p> 	<p>Phonics (both reading and writing words) is taught every morning. During the Spring term, the children will be using the skills they gained in Autumn term to help them read and write full sentences.</p> 
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half term we are focusing on representing zero, subitizing, and comparing amounts. We will develop the children's understanding of mass and capacity by comparing the weight of objects using balance scales. We will also be exploring length, height and time and exploring 3-D shapes in the second half of term.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE, we are thinking about why Christians believe that Jesus is special. We will also think about who is special to us in our families. In the second half of term we will ask "What is so special about Easter?" as we get ready for Easter celebrations!</p>
<p>Topic</p> 	<p>Our topic this half term is 'Superheroes and Monsters', the children will discuss what makes a hero and a villain. We will role play as heroes and create our own capes and masks!</p> <p>In the second half of term we will be learning about 'Plant Growth'. As the season begins to change, we will think about how plants grow, and what they need to flourish. We will also go on a fabulous trip to Mudchute Farm to meet farmers and see the animals.</p> <p>At home, you can try to grow things like watercress or beans. Your child can help you water the plants and talk about how to care for them!</p>
<p>Values</p> 	<p>We will be focusing on the whole school values of Love and Forgiveness. We will be exploring these values throughout this term and children will have the opportunity to learn how these values can be displayed, referring to examples from Bible stories and influential figures.</p>

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024

- Mon 22nd January – we will launch our Annual Poetry Competition
- Week beginning 22nd January – After School Clubs begin
- Wed 31st January 9AM – Candlemas and Eucharist worship in St Mary's Church
- Fri 9th Feb – Own Clothes £1 (wear RED for Chinese New Year) – Dragon Dancing, Food & Crafts
- **Mon 12th – Fri 16th February – HALF TERM**
- Wed 6th March 9AM – Mothering Sunday worship in School
- Fri 8th March 8AM – Parent's Reading Breakfast in School
- Fri 8th March – Children's Own Clothes Day – dress up as a BOOK CHARACTER for BOOK WEEK
- **Friday 8th March – Reception school trip to Mudchute Farm!**
- Mon 11th March – we will launch our Easter Competition to create an Easter Bonnet
- Thu 14th March – PARENTS' EVENING
- Fri 22nd March – Own Clothes Day (pay £1) and at 3PM Easter Cake Sale and Games to raise money for the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal
- Thu 28th March 1:00PM – End of Spring Term
- Mon 15th April 8:40AM - Children return to school for the Summer Term

Key Reminders

- If you wish to bring in a cake for your child's birthday, please ensure that it is already sliced and put into party bags, as we are unable to cut the cake for you
- 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

Please note that the children must bring the correct PE kit (plain navy blue/black jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt and plain black plimsolls/trainers) to every PE lesson. Our PE coach, Mr Tientcheu, will lead the children in the PE curriculum alongside their teacher. **PE lessons will be on Wednesdays.**



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although 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.

Homework

Homework will be set on Friday and should be handed in on Tuesday. In addition to the homework set, your child should be reading their phonics book every day. **There is a clear expectation that every child fully completes their homework every week and we will be keeping a record of all homework completed and contacting parents where this is not the case.**

Reading

It is vital that your child reads to you every day. Please complete their reading journal and ensure that they bring it into school **daily**. 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 (Class Teacher) **Miss Bennett** (Teaching Assistant) **Miss Johnson** (Teaching Assistant)