

Dear parents

After the disruption of the second Covid-19 lockdown, the children are settling back into class routines and resuming their learning, rediscovering old friendships and enjoying the outside area, now the weather has improved. The bean plants and strawberries have been thriving in the raised beds - so the children will be on a daily watering rota – when they are not hunting for minibeasts.



Topic Web – All creatures great and small

Last Friday Reception had a very exciting delivery – a jar of baby caterpillars. There has been a huge amount of interest in watching them grow. We will be reading that great favourite, **The Hungry Caterpillar** and keeping our own caterpillar diaries as we note all the changes happening. In maths the focus will be looking at numbers 10 – 20, finding missing numbers on number tracks and counting on and back.



Our new mud kitchen

The school has been investing money in developing the Reception outside area. One of the first pieces of equipment to arrive was a beautiful mud kitchen, which the children have lost no time in using, as they develop their creative ideas around cooking and meals. It has stimulated lots of talk and opportunities for collaborative learning.



Read, Write Inc reading books

Each Thursday your child's reading scheme book will be changed, so please make sure it is in their bag. Children need to practise their reading at home every day, though they don't need to read the entire book. Don't forget to use your log-in for 'Teach my monster to read' as the games are great fun.



Clothes

Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. We provide each child with a tray to store their school bag and personal items in, to help them to take responsibility for their possessions. **Please ensure that you provide a small bag of spare clothes to be stored at school.**



Home learning

Each Friday children will have a small piece of home learning to be completed by Tuesday of the following week. Please spend time supporting your child with this – they enjoy learning when it means time spent with their parent. Picture books are still being changed every Friday.



E-safety:-

Even young children use a wide range of technology, including the Internet. At St Mary's we are working with our children and families to help make sure that children stay safe online. Children need to be monitored at home to ensure they are accessing age appropriate materials.



With best wishes

Miss Rowe, Miss Octave and Miss Anneliese