

YEAR ONE 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

We will continue our Maths and Literacy learning by building on the key skills that the children learned last term. Our topics this term will be 'Dragons' and 'Town and Country'. We will be delivering a lot of the learning in Science, History, Geography, Art and Design Technology through our topics, with links to the learning in Literacy and Maths. Below is an outline of what we will be covering in our curriculum.

<p>English</p> 	<p>In English, we will be reading 'Dadaji's paintbrush' by Rashmi Sirdeshpande which is about the special bond a little boy shares with his grandad and the memories that the latter leaves behind. Children will develop reading skills of prediction and inference. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to write their own version of the story using statements and commands and sequencing sentences to form short narratives. We will be launching our Poetry competition before half-term, so please begin to think about a Poem that your child could learn and perform (or they can write their own!).</p>
<p>Phonics and Reading</p> 	<p>Phonics will be taught daily every morning and spellings to learn at home will be set on Purple Mash on a weekly basis. These will be tested each week. We will be reading daily as a class. Please ensure that you hear your child read every day and update their Reading Record.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half term we will be focusing on Place Value (numbers to 20) and addition within 20. In the second half of the term we will be learning about subtraction within 20, place value (numbers to 50) and measurement. Children will continue learning how to read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals (=) signs. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to apply their knowledge of these operations to solving addition and subtraction questions and word problems using concrete, pictorial and abstract methods.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE, we will be learning about 'What is it like to live as a Jew?' and 'Why is Easter the most important festival for Christians?' Children will learn why people belong to religions and explain how similarities and differences within and between religions can make a difference to the lives of individuals and communities.</p>
<p>Topic</p> 	<p>Our topic this term is 'Dragons'. We will be linking our Science and Geography lessons to China. In Science we will classify animals from the Chinese New Year Story and other animals using simple criteria. In Geography, we will be learning to locate familiar places on a map (London, school, home etc.). We will also be learning about the different continents and locate China on the world map. Throughout this term, we will also be looking out for seasonal changes that take place in Winter.</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>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>In Computing, we will learn how to drag and drop items on screen to create our own jigsaw puzzle. We will also be using ICT to teach other subjects within the curriculum. The children will learn how to log onto the school computers and use them safely by following our school rules.</p>

Music 	The children will be listening to, appraising and composing music using a scheme of work called 'Music Express', where we will be learning a song and performing it in many styles.
PSHE 	We will be following the Jigsaw scheme of work in our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education). This term we will be learning about 'Healthy Me' and 'Dreams and Goals'.

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024

- **Thursday 22nd February- KS1 Brightsparks concert at the Royal Festival Hall**
- 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
- 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

- 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 Tuesdays.**



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although plain stud earrings are acceptable. Please bear in mind that if your child is wearing earrings they need to be able to remove them themselves for PE lessons.

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.

Home Learning

Home Learning will be set on Friday and should be completed by Tuesday. In addition to the learning set, your children should be regularly practicing their times tables, spellings and reading every day.

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 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.

Mrs Chetri (Class Teacher) Mrs Dikule (Teaching Assistant)