

YEAR 2 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.

English 	In English, we will be learning the story of 'Kassim and the Greedy Dragon'. We will be writing our own warning stories and learning about commas in lists. In addition, we will be writing our own poems based on Michael Rosen's 'Rhythm of Life'. We will be learning that each new line of a poem starts with a capital letter. 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!).
Phonics and Reading 	This term, some children in Year Two will continue to learn sounds and word reading skills in Phonics lessons and some children will be focusing more on their comprehension skills and learning how to answer different types of questions (for example, multiple choice or true/false questions). Spellings to learn at home will continue to be set on a weekly basis. These will be tested each week. Please ensure that you hear your child read every day and update their Reading Record.
Maths 	This half term we will be focusing on properties of 2D and 3D shapes. We will also be learning about money. We will be learning the value of different coins and notes and how we can use them to make different amounts. The children will also start learning about how to find change. In the second half of the term, we will be learning Multiplication and Division. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to understand the concepts of multiplication and division and solve problems associated with their 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
RE 	In RE, we will be learning about what it means to be Jewish. We will be learning why the Torah is special to Jews. We will also be learning about where and how Jewish people pray. In the second half of the term, we will be learning about Christian Saints. We will also be thinking about why Easter is special to Christians.
Topic 	<p>Our topic is 'Dragons'. In Geography, we will learn the 7 continents and where to find China on a world map. We will look closely at Beijing and describe some of its features (such as buildings, roads and schools). In Art we will be exploring how we can make different types of brush strokes. We will use what we learn to create our own dragon art inspired by Chinese artists Bada Shanren and Shen Zhou.</p> <p>In DT, we will be using our cutting and joining skills to make a Chinese paper lantern. In Science, we will be learning about animals we might find in different habitats in China.</p>

Values 	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.
Computing 	In Computing, we will be learning how to use a mouse to drag and drop. We will be exploring games and creating a simple interactive activity.
Music 	The children will learn how to find the pulse in a piece of music and explore using percussion instruments to make a rhythm.
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 setting goals and keeping healthy .

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
- Tuesday 23rd January- Fire Brigade Visit
- 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**
- Thursday 22nd February- Royal Festival Hall trip
- 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. Davis (Class Teacher) Miss Mignemi (Teaching Assistant)