

YEAR 2 CLASS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all, thank you so much for supporting the children with their home learning over the Spring Term. We couldn't be happier that we are now all back together at St Mary's again. The children are thrilled to be at school every day, learning and playing with their friends and have been very busy already!

Key reminders

- Please do not bring your child to school if they are unwell.
- If you, your child or any member of your household has symptoms of coronavirus, stay at home and get a test.
- School starts at 8:45 and ends at 3:15. Please be on time when you drop-off and collect.
- Please use the spray-painted footprints on the pavement to socially distance. Please only line up on this side of the pavement so that members of the public can pass by on the other side.
- Please do not send your child to school with hand gel as we have dispensers throughout the school in addition to a hand washing station in each class. We clean our hands regularly throughout the day.

Curriculum

We are continuing to adapt the curriculum to the needs of our Year Two children, as we know that, yet again, their learning was disrupted for many weeks. We will still have a strong focus on PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) in order to give the children time and space to share their feelings.

This term, our Maths and Literacy learning will focus on securing the skills and knowledge that are the most important and useful to the children. Our topics this term will be 'Animal World' and 'Let's Get Moving'. Below is an outline of what we will be covering in our curriculum.

English	As part of our book week, we will be reading 'What are Heavy?' by Christina Rossetti and writing our own poems with questions and answers. The children will be learning how to use question marks as part of this unit. We will then be reading 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' by John Burningham and 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak. The children will be writing their own versions of these stories and, through doing this, they will learn how to use exclamation marks and apostrophes appropriately.
Reading / Phonics	We will be reading daily as a class and will be looking at stories by Dick King Smith and Ronda and David Armitage. Phonics will be taught daily and spellings will be sent home to learn on a weekly basis. Please ensure your child brings their books to school everyday as they will need them to participate in our phonics lessons. We have a limited number of books available and we want to avoid children having to share them where possible.
Maths	This half-term we will be focusing on multiplication, division and fractions. We will be counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10 and practising counting backwards in ones from 100 as this is an important skill that the children need to master by the end of year 2. We will also be reviewing place value, addition and subtraction next half term. It is important that the children practice their counting and times tables at home too.

RE	This half term, our unit will be 'Who is the Saint of our school?' and the children will be learning all about Saint Mary and why Christians believe that she was special. We will also be learning about some special Jewish festivals such as Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot.
Science	This half term, the children will be learning all about animals and their habitats. They will learn about the life cycles of different living things and investigate which creatures live in our local area and where. Year 2 will also have the opportunity to learn about what all living things need in order to survive by taking care of our very own chicks! Next half term, the children will learn all about the properties of different materials.
Art and DT	In Art and DT, we will be designing and making our own chicken coops and thinking about how we could make a door that opens and closes using a simple hinge. We will also be using modelling materials to create sculptures of different animals in the style of Fernando Botero.
Geography	In Geography, we will be learning about the habitats and creatures that can be found in different parts of Africa. Next half term, we will be looking at which countries make up the United Kingdom and how we might travel to different places.
Values	We will start by learning about the whole school values of Responsibility and Faith.
Computing	In Computing the children will learn how to make their very own animations and begin to learn how to code and make their own mini computer games.
Music	We will continue to use the 'Charanga' scheme of learning and will use our voices, bodies and musical instruments to explore rhythm and pulse.

PE

Please note that the children must wear their PE kit to school every Tuesday. The correct PE kit is plain navy blue/black jogging bottoms, a plain white t-shirt and plain black plimsolls/trainers. Our PE coach, Mr Tientcheu, will lead the children in a variety of games and sports. **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.

Homework

Homework will be set on PurpleMash on Friday and the deadline for completion is Tuesday. In addition to the homework set, your children should be regularly practicing counting on and back to/from at least 100 and learning their number bonds to 10 and 20 (if they do not yet know them). If they do, please ensure that they practice the 2,3, 5 and 10 times tables and the associated division facts.

Reading

It is vital that your child reads to you every day. Please complete their reading record 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.

Trips and Visits

At present, we are not taking the children on any trips involving public transport.

Appointments

As you will be aware, parents are not allowed on the school premises at this time. 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 truly value your ongoing support with your child's learning in these challenging times.



Miss Stead (Class Teacher)



Mrs. Davis (Teaching Assistant)