

YEAR 4 CLASS NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to St Mary's. Thank you so much for supporting the school at the beginning of term by following all of the Covid-19 guidance to ensure that the school is as safe as possible. The children have settled well into their class and we have really enjoyed getting back to our learning.

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 3:00. 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.

Curriculum

We have carefully designed our curriculum, recognising that the children have missed several months of schooling in the midst of a pandemic that has changed all of our daily lives. We will have a strong focus on PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) in order to give the children time and space to share their feelings. Staff have been trained in Growth Mindset which will help children in developing their self-confidence and their resilience to cope with challenges. As well as promoting the children's wellbeing, these skills will also support them as learners.

We will begin our Maths and Literacy learning with a focus on key skills, in order to assess where the children are in their learning so that we can build from this starting point. Our topic this term will be 'Let's Communicate'. 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	<p>In Literacy, we will start with a focus on Poetry. We will be learning all about metaphors and will be using metaphors to write our very own poems. Then we will be learning the story of George's Marvelous Medicine and using it to inspire us to write our own stories. The children will be focusing on using speech punctuation correctly.</p> <p>Spellings will be sent home to learn on a weekly basis. Please take the time to learn them with your child – they will be tested each week.</p>
Reading / Phonics	<p>Reading/Phonics will be taught daily and we will be focusing on the skills of predicting, making inferences and clarifying. We will practice the use of these strategies during daily whole class reading sessions.</p>
Maths	<p>This half-term we will be focusing on division and learning how to divide a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. We will be learning about fractions, finding fractions of amounts and equivalent fractions. The children will also be working on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables and will explore patterns in some multiplication tables (2, 5, 10, 4 and 8). We will have a weekly times tables challenge too.</p>

RE	This term we will be learning about Judaism with focus on what it means to be a Jew.
Values	We will start by learning about the whole school values of Responsibility.
Computing	In Computing, we will be working on our word processing skills and considering how we can use technology to present our work clearly.
Music	We will continue to use the Charanga scheme of learning, whilst taking account of guidance on singing and the use of musical instruments.

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 a variety of games and sports. **PE lessons will be on Thursdays.**

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 sent home on Friday and is due back in by Tuesday. In addition to the homework set, your children should be regularly practicing their times tables and spellings.

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. However, we recognise the value of giving children experiences that bring the curriculum learning to life therefore we have planned a treasure hunt experience linked to our topic, which will take place in and around the school.

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 greatly value your support with your child's learning in these challenging times.