

# YEAR 1 CLASS NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 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 new class and we have really enjoyed getting to know them.

## Curriculum

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 topics this term will be Caribbean Islands and The Circle of Life. 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 Literacy, we will be focusing on poetry and story writing. In our poetry unit we will be learning the poem 'Hopalong Kangaroo' by John Agard. Children will learn and recite the poem and they will also plan and write their own poem. We will also be learning the story of The Three Pigs, where children will join along the repeating sentences/phrases in the story and also write their own version of the story at the end of the unit. Within both genres we will carry on learning about sentence structure and punctuation.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Our Numeracy lessons will begin with numbers and place value. The children will learn how to count and how to read and identify numbers. They will also be learning how to read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals (=) signs.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>Our topic for RE is 'Why do Christians make and keep promises?', where we will learn about Christianity, baptism and faith. We will focus on why Christians make and keep promises before God.</p>
<p>Topic</p> 	<p>Our topic for Science is 'Our senses' and 'Materials'. We will explore our five super senses through different exciting experiments. We will also sort materials according to different criteria. We will be revisiting the work and life of Mary Seacole and thinking about why nurses are super. We will be comparing medical care in the past with that of the present day. In Art, children will be introduced to the idea of portrait and self-portraits this term. We will observe the shape, form proportion and features of the human face and make portraits in style of Picasso. In Geography, we will be learning to locate familiar places on a map (London, school, home etc). We will also be learning about the four countries that make up the United Kingdom. Throughout the half term, we will also be looking out for seasonal changes that take place in Autumn.</p>
<p>Values</p> 	<p>We will start by learning about the whole school values of Respect and Peace. 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>We will be using a variety of programs to deliver our Computing curriculum to build-up our skills. 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>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>We will be listening to, appraising and composing music using a scheme of work called 'Charanga', where we will be learning a song and performing it in many styles.</p>

## Key Dates

- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 - Meet the Teacher zoom meetings (3:30PM)
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Parent Growth Mindset session – online from home or from the community hub (9:15am)
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 – School Photographer
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October - HALF TERM – SCHOOL CLOSED
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Parents Evening
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November - INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 1:00PM – End of Term

## Key Reminders

- Please be on time at the beginning (8:45) and end (3:15) 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 their 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.

## Homework

Homework will be set on Friday and should be completed by Tuesday. In addition to the homework set, your children should be regularly practicing their times tables, spellings (Elmer sheets) and reading every day.

## 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

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](mailto:admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk)

We greatly value your support with your child's learning.

Mrs Chetri & Mrs Dikule (Class Teacher)