

YEAR 3 CLASS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2023











Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to St Mary's, we hope that you and your family enjoyed a peaceful Summer break. The children have settled well back into their new class and we are looking forward to our year of learning together. Your support in ensuring that your child completes their Home Learning every week 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 year. Our topics this term will be 'Stones and Bones' and 'From Farm to Fork'. 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 'The First Drawing' by Mordecai Gerstein which is about a young artist in the Stone Age. Inspired by this, the children will be writing their own character descriptions, diary entries and short stories. In addition, we will read 'Escape from Pompeii' which will link to our learning about volcanoes in Geography. Based on this the children will be writing their own newspaper reports. All children are expected to punctuate their work correctly and edit their writing.</p>
<p>Reading</p> 	<p>This half-term we will be focusing on Non-Fiction and will be reading and learning from 'The Lost Species' by Jess French/Daniel Long and 'Earth Shattering Events' by Robin Jacobs. The children will be working on answering different types of questions about what they have read. They will also be considering how they can work out the meanings of words that they do not know already. Please ensure that you hear your child read every day and update their Reading Record – this will be monitored daily.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half term we will be focusing on Place Value, Addition and Subtraction. We will be learning how to recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens and ones), as well as compare and order numbers to 1,000. We will also learn formal written methods for column addition and subtraction and solve number problems. In the second half of the term we will be learning about Multiplication and Division. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to recall and use facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables. We will be launching our Times Table challenge before half-term, so please continue to practise your multiplication tables at home.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE, we will be learning about the Bible. In our lessons we will find out how The Bible came into being and how Christians got The Bible they use today. The children will also consider what The Bible teaches about faith and reflect on what faith means to them. In the second half term, we will learn about Advent and Epiphany and how they help Christians to remember what Christmas is really about.</p>
<p>Topic</p> 	<p>In our 'Stones and Bones' topic, the children will study the history of the Stone, Iron and Bronze ages. They will learn about Volcanoes and Earthquakes in Geography and in Science they will learn what fossils are and about how different types of rocks are formed. In Art, the children will be making their own cave art and in DT they will try to make their own stone age tools. Next half term, the children will be investigating how farming has changed over time, and how it changed in the Iron Age in particular. In Science, the children will learn more about the different types of food and where they come from. They will also study how our skeletons work.</p>
<p>Values</p> 	<p>We will be focusing on 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>

Comp Uting		In Computing, we will be learning to describe some differences between private/public communication, to explain why sending & receiving messages can be dangerous and to know that it is wrong to present another person's work as your own. We will also learn how to create computer games using repeat loops.
Music		The children will learn how to play the trumpet.
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 how good it feels to be included in a group and how it feels to be excluded. They will be learning how to try to make people feel welcome and valued.
MFL		We will be studying French as our Modern Foreign Language (MFL). This term we will be learning to talk about ourselves, as well as playing games and singing songs in French.

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2023

- September – we are welcoming any donations for our annual Harvest collection, please donate any non-perishable food items (tins, jars and packets) to support those most in need
- Wed 20th September 8:45AM – Parents' welcome meeting with your child's class teacher
- Tue 26th September – **SCHOOL PHOTOS**
- Wed 27th September 2PM – Harvest worship in St Mary's Church
- Wed 27th September – Trip to the Natural History Museum
- Fri 29th September 8:30AM – Parents are invited to visit our Prayer Day in St Mary's Church
- Tue 10th October AM – Trip to Catford Library
- **Mon 23rd – Fri 27th October – HALF TERM**
- Sun 5th November 10:00AM – First Communion service at St Mary's Church
- Fri 10th November – Trip to Mudchute Farm
- Tue 14th November – Trip to West India Quay to watch the film 'Early Man'
- Thu 16th November – PARENTS EVENING
- **Fri 17th November – SCHOOL CLOSED – Inset Day**
- Fri 1st December 3:10PM – Christmas Fayre
- Thu 14th December 2:00PM – KS2 Candlelit Christmas Service in St Mary's Church
- Tue 19th December – 1:00PM – End of Autumn Term
- Tue 9th January - Children return to school for the Spring 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 Thursdays.**



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although watches and 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 practising 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 Maseko and Mr Wright (Class Teachers) Miss Williams (Teaching Assistant)