

# YEAR 5 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 in well and have been having fun discovering some fabulous poetry.

## 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.

## Curriculum

We will begin our Maths learning by reviewing the learning that took place during lockdown, 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 'London in Danger' and 'True and False'. 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.

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| English | We will begin the term exploring poetry where we will recap poetic devices and focus on avoiding using clichés. We will also work on being more precise when naming nouns. We will then move on to writing a 'losing tale' with a focus on writing effective openings and endings. We will end on writing a 'portal story' where we will be developing our descriptive writing and vocabulary. In non-fiction we will be learning to write a discussion and information texts.                                                                         |
| Reading | In reading we will be using the 'Destination Reader' approach to develop our skills in predicting, clarifying, evaluating, questioning, inferring, summarising and making connections. We will be exploring a range of texts (including poetry and non-fiction) and our focus texts will be 'Tom's Midnight Garden', 'Goodnight Mr Tom' and 'Cosmic'. Children will be encouraged to develop their ability to discuss the texts in pairs and as a class. They will also learn the skills of answering reading questions in the 'Big Picture' sessions. |
| Maths   | This half-term we will be focusing on fractions. They will be finding equivalent fractions and learning to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. They will also be adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions. We will then be moving on to working with decimals and percentages. We will end the term developing our understanding of concepts in Shape, Position and Direction.                                                                                                                                                  |
| RE      | Our Religious Education topics this term will be focused on the importance of pilgrimages in Christianity and we will make links to different religious pilgrimages. In the second half of the term, we will be learning what it means to                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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|               | be a Sikh. Within these lessons, we will be considering how aspects of the religions taught influence the lives of the believers.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Values        | We will start by learning about the whole school values of Responsibility and Faith. 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/Art | We will be focusing on using computer programs (Purple Mash) to create animations and stop motion. In addition to this, we will be reviewing how to keep safe online and considering how images on the internet can be altered using digital photo editing software.                             |
| DT            | Our Design and Technology learning this half term will be linked to our learning in History – Rationing in World War 2. During this period of learning, we will be creating, making and evaluating our own war inspired recipes for jam and war time biscuits.                                   |
| 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 Wednesdays.**

## 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 Friday and should be completed by Tuesday. In addition to the homework set, your children should be regularly practicing their times tables, spellings and reading every day.

## Reading

It is vital that your child reads (either to you or independently) every day. Please make sure that they 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 regularly. 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 have invited in Adisa the Verbaliser to inspire the children's poetry writing.

## 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 in these challenging times.



Miss Baxter (Class Teacher)



Mr Diodato (Teaching Assistant)