

YEAR SIX 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. We look forward to seeing you at the **Year Six Parents' Meeting** on Thursday 21st September at 5PM.

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 'The Caribbean Islands' and 'Lewisham Then and Now'. 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 developing our writer's voice. During the first half term, we will be reading 'Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah. Using this book, we will learn how to develop our knowledge of relative clauses, use commas for clarity and how to use a variety of sentence structures effectively. Next, we will be using a picture book called 'The Arrival' to further develop our ability to write for particular purposes. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to self-select writing techniques that are most appropriate for the text that they are writing.</p>
<p>Reading</p> 	<p>This term, we will be revising our reading strategies of clarifying, inferring, summarising, making connections, predicting, evaluating and questioning. We will be reading the books 'Wonder' and 'Cogheart' to practice combining these reading strategies. The children will also practice how to support and actively listen to others, while reading. Please ensure that you hear your child read every day and update their Reading Record.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half-term we will be focusing on number and place value. This will include reading, writing and ordering numbers up to 10 million and rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. In addition to this, we will be learning about negative numbers. In the second half of the term, we will be learning how to add and subtract whole numbers with more than four digits. We will also learn how to multiply and divide numbers up to 4 digits by up to 2-digit numbers. We will be launching our Times Table challenge before half-term, so please continue to practice your multiplication tables at home.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>Our Religious Education topics this term will be focused around Pilgrimages, Remembrance and Incarnation (The birth of Christ). Within these lessons, we will be considering how aspects of the religions taught and influence the lives of the believers.</p>
<p>Topic</p> 	<p>Children will find out about the islands of the Caribbean. They will learn about the Caribbean's geography, climate and place on the world map through using maps and digital mapping tools such as Google Earth. They will also find out about the various cultures, music and ways of life within different islands. The children will share their own experiences and knowledge of the Caribbean and have the opportunity to engage in practical experiences such as discussions, trips and cooking.</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>
<p>Comp Uting</p> 	<p>In Computing, we will be learning about E-Safety. Children are spending more time online and it is vital that we continue to educate them on how to be safe when using a phone, tablet, laptop, PC or any device where they are able to communicate with others online.</p>

Music 	The children will learn a variety of songs. Within our lessons, we will learn to sing songs that are sung in different combinations.
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 understanding themselves and celebrating difference.
MFL 	We will be studying French as our Modern Foreign Language (MFL). This term we will be learning to speak about their homes and classrooms.

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2023

- Fri 22nd September - Cool Aeronautics Trip
- 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
- Thurs 21st September 5PM – 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
- Fri 29th September 8:30AM – Parents are invited to visit our Prayer Day in St Mary's Church
- Mon 2nd October to Fri 6th October - PGL
- Thurs 19th October- Class Led Worship
- **Mon 23rd – Fri 27th October – HALF TERM**
- Sun 5th November 10:00AM – First Communion service at St Mary's Church
- 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 Friday.**



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although a watch 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 practicing 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.

Miss Egunjobi (Class Teacher) Mr Diodato (Teaching Assistant)