



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Putney

Vision: Delivering excellence, allowing all to flourish

Mission: Creating a culture of wonder, guided by Christian faith

Values: Compassion • Endurance • Thankfulness

Nursery: Half-Termly Letter to Parents

Summer Term 2, June 2024

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

The Curriculum

The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum covers a child's whole development across 7 areas: Communication and Language; Physical Development; Personal, Social and Emotional Development; Literacy; Mathematics; Expressive Art and Design; and Understanding the World.

This half term we will be continuing our theme of MINIBEASTS from last half term and will have lots of exciting events such as our end of year trip and sports day.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The three strands of PSED (Self-Regulation, Managing Self and Relationships) are continually being taught and modelled to the children throughout the day in Nursery and adapted to individual children's needs. Our focus for PSED for this half term is 'Changing Me.' The children will be learning to understand that everyone is unique and special, express how they feel when change happens, know who to ask for help if they are worried about change and to look forward to and be excited about the changes ahead. We will start by looking at how the children have changed since they were born. **Please send in a baby photograph of your child, via the class email, by Tuesday 14th June.** The children will use these photographs as a prompt for their discussions around change. As we move nearer to the end of term, we will begin to talk and discuss the transition to Reception (both at St. Mary's and other schools). If you have not done so already please let us know which school your child will be attending in September so we can support this transition.

The class will continue to develop and learn how to look after themselves (Managing Self), by selecting and using their own resources, asking for help when needed. Being dry and clean during the day and managing their own basic hygiene needs. Showing an awareness and understanding of the effect of what they eat on the body.

Physical Development

The children will continue to focus on developing their gross and fine motor skills. Through a range of physical games, the children will develop their core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility. Nursery will take part in a PE session on Wednesday (first half of the week) and Friday (second half of the week). This half term the children will be preparing for their sports day games and activities. The class will have repeated and varied opportunities to explore and play with play dough, small construction, arts, crafts and using small tools, encouraging the children to use precision and control

to manipulate resources and small equipment. This half term we will be bringing the skills developed in both gross and fine motor activities to develop the children's tripod grip for mark making. The children will be continuing to learn how to write their name, forming lower case letters (see Literacy).

Communication and Language

The children will continue to develop their listening, understanding and speaking skills through the classroom environment, interaction with others and specific activities - this happens all the time in Nursery! We will be continuing to encourage 'back and forth' interactions during conversations, particularly when the children are playing together in the continuous provision. We will be reading and studying many lovely stories relating to the minibests we are focusing on. We will continue to share and discuss the stories we come across, commenting and asking questions about them, particularly focusing on "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle and "Aargh! A Spider!" by Lydia Monks.

Literacy

The children will be using their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. They will be encouraged to engage in list writing such as shopping lists in our class fruit/vegetable shop (role-play area), inspired by our key text "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". We will also look at simple 'story maps' to retell a familiar story. Please encourage your child to use the correct lowercase letter formation now, and a tripod grip (rather than a thumb and two finger pencil grip) as this will begin to prepare them for September.

In phonics we will be focusing on orally blending and segmenting. This is an important skill for the children to develop for their reading and writing skills. Throughout this half term the children will have plenty of opportunities to listen to adults modelling oral blending and segmenting before they are introduced to grapheme-phoneme correspondences. For example, when giving children instructions or asking questions the adult can segment the last word into separate phonemes and then immediately blend the sounds together to say the word (e.g. It's time to get your c-oa-t, coat! or Touch your t-oe-s, toes! Who can touch their f-ee-t, feet?)

Mathematics

The class will be encouraged to investigate number and shape through a variety of activities each day. The children will be consolidating their number knowledge so far and continuing to develop their individual counting skills.

We will be focusing on mathematical concepts such as:

- Knowing that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').
- Subitising
- Linking numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5 and then 10.
- Experimenting with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.
- Talking about and identifying the patterns around them.
- Extend and create ABAB patterns - stick, leaf, stick, leaf.
- Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern.
- Volume and capacity

Understanding the World and RE

It has been lovely to see the children become so engaged with each of our topics of learning each term! We hope this continues as we look at life cycles together and growth and change over time. We are encouraging children to observe more detailed differences and similarities in their environment, and in the minibests we are studying.

RE

This half term we will be thinking about the question of "who cares for this special world and why?" We will be linking it to our minibeast topics and trip to Fulham Palace.

Expressive Art and Design

We encourage children to develop their imagination in all areas of the classroom and with a range of resources these include, the role-play area, loose parts, small world, art/craft, water, transient art, construction, with stories, puppets and many more! We will be making more 2D and 3D art to show the minibeasts we are learning about. We will be learning more about collage, exploring clay, and developing our artistic talents even more! Our theme of Minibeasts, will link the musical activities with the minibeast they are studying in class. We will be aiming to develop the children's musical awareness through singing, putting actions to the beat and playing singing games. We will also be focusing on practising their listening skills through moving to minibeast music and using sung instructions.

Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern, our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Kerry Dunford. Her contact email is: kdunford.212@lqflmail.org. For any safeguarding concerns outside of school hours please contact the Wandsworth Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Their contact details are: Telephone: 020 8871 6622 or e-mail: MASH@wandsworth.gov.uk.

WHAT YOUR CHILD NEEDS FOR NURSERY

Uniform can be ordered and collected from the office (or school website). As the weather is getting warmer please ensure your child comes to school with a labelled sun hat and sun cream is applied before your child arrives at school. **It is very important that ALL of your child's clothes are labelled, including shoes, socks and coats! Over the year lots of labels have come off or been washed off - please can you double check all of your child's uniform!**

Please send your child into school with:

- a labelled water bottle that they can drink from independently - EVERYDAY
- a sun hat
- a book bag once a week - WEDNESDAY ONLY
- Please apply sun cream before school

Lunch - Food and Allergies

St Mary's is a healthy school, so we ask that children do not bring in chocolate to school, or in their packed lunches. We will have to remove these items until the end of the day.

Another important reminder: **PLEASE ENSURE NO NUTS OR SESAME ARE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL.** We are a nut free school, and we have children with severe nut and sesame allergies. Please remember nuts and sesame are often in cereal bars, pesto, hummus and on/in bread/bagels etc. Always check the label before sending food into school.

Home Learning Arrangements

Home Learning will be set on a Wednesday and will be due the following Wednesday.

There will be weekly home learning as follows:

- **Reading:** Every child will take home a fiction or non-fiction text that your child will choose weekly on a Wednesday. Your child will receive a folder and a reading record card. Please fill in

the reading card weekly and return the folder and book on the following Wednesday. **Please only bring these books in on WEDNESDAY!**

Diary Dates

Mufti Day

On Friday 14th June there will be a Mufti Day at school.

FOMS Summer Fair

On Friday 28th June you are all invited to attend our FOMS Summer Fair in the playground after school.

School Trip

On **Wednesday 26th June** the class will be visiting **Fulham Palace!** Please make sure you have read and signed the trip letter. ALL children will need to be in school at 8.55am and will be on the trip for the whole day. They will also need to bring a packed lunch in a disposable, named bag with a reusable water bottle (we will keep water bottles all day).

Volunteers for Fulham Palace

If you have a school DBS and have attended our Volunteer Induction and would be able to come with us to Fulham Palace, please do email the Nursery team as soon as possible.

Sports Day

Friday 19th July - 10.00am - 12:00pm Early Years and Key Stage 1 Sports Day

ALL children are invited to attend during the morning session (8:55am - 12:00pm). Nursery will walk down to Putney Common with EYs and KS1. **First half of the week children should meet us down at Putney Common at 9:30am.** They will be participating in lots of different sporting activities and races on Putney Common. Sports day will conclude at 12:00pm. **All children need to be collected by 12:00pm including the full-timers - PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO NURSERY SESSION ON THIS AFTERNOON.**

St. Mary's Nursery and Reception Inductions

If your child will be attending St. Mary's Nursery or Reception in September 2024 there will be a 1 hour induction session or stay and play on Friday 19th July. More information to follow.

Nursery - 1.30 - 2.30pm

Reception - 2.00 - 3.00pm

Communication

If there are important messages e.g. a query for the Nursery team, or letting us know about pick up arrangements **please email classnursery@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk before 9am: these will be checked once a day. A message after this should be emailed or phoned into the school office. If the child is going home with someone not known to the Nursery staff, we must be notified in advance otherwise we cannot release your child until we have spoken to you.**

We are really looking forward to an exciting half term! If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to us or to email via the class email.

Best wishes

Kerry Dunford, Lisa McDougall, Marisa Winter and Caroline Miller