



## 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*

### Reception: Half-Termly Letter to Parents

Summer 2 June 2024

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Welcome back! I cannot quite believe we have reached our last half term together in Reception!

#### THE CURRICULUM

This half term we will be using the book "The Sea Saw" by Tom Percival as a starting point for our learning.

Further to this, we will be thinking about the seaside, the sea, and water more broadly as we learn across all areas of the curriculum.

#### Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

This half term the class will be thinking about how they have grown and changed throughout their lives. They will develop ways to express how they feel when change happens and know who to ask for help if they are worried about change. In particular, we start to think about our transition into Year 1!

#### Physical Development (PD)

The class will further develop their fine and gross motor skills. Handwriting continues to be a focus. To support this learning at home please encourage your child to form their letters correctly, so that any old habits are corrected, and to use a tripod grip (see picture on handwriting folder - pencil held between thumb and index finger, with the middle finger only resting underneath). Please note that this tripod grip differs from the thumb and two-finger grip.



Reception continue to have their PE lessons with Miss McEvoy on Tuesdays and with Mr Newman on Wednesdays. This half term pupils will further their movement, balance and ball skills. They will learn to run at different speeds, and independently select and link different movements in order to move around space. In addition, the class will develop static and moving balances.

#### Communication and Language (C&L)

Our focus book this half term is book "The Sea Saw" which will allow us to use new vocabulary in different contexts, and ask questions to find out more about the world about us. We will have a focus on retelling the sequence of the story, both using repetition, and our own words. We will use the links with water and the sea to look at linked non-fiction texts too.

#### Literacy

##### Phonics and Reading

We will be consolidating our phonemes and digraphs learnt so far, and continue to learn some alternate spellings. For instance we have been learning about vowels, and the different short and long vowel sounds they can make (e.g. 'a' can make 'a' as in apple or 'ay' as in baby). As well as this we have also learnt split digraphs (the concept is harder to grasp they will be taught again in Y1). Once a new alternate spelling is introduced, we will send a sound card home to be added to their Sound Books. **Please continue to practice all the sounds and actions at home daily - this is a really important foundation for their reading. Please also practice their tricky words daily - using the flashcards in games can make this a bit more interesting!**

### Writing

The children will be using their imagination and phonic knowledge to write simple sentences and complete 'extended' pieces of writing based around our focus book, leading up to retelling the story for ourselves towards the end of the half term. In the meantime, we will be making predictions in writing, recording our own thoughts and ideas, writing party invitations, and using speech bubbles to show our ideas. Through this work, we will be reinforcing what a sentence is and remembering the capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are also working on incorporating some of the 'tricky words' we know how to read into our writing, using prompts in the classroom.

### Mathematics

In our number work, we will be continuing to create a secure foundation for the children's mathematics. We follow a Maths Mastery approach, which really focuses on a deep understanding of number. Rather than counting 'high' we explore what is really going on within small numbers. This half term children will consolidate their understanding of concepts previously taught through working in a variety of contexts and with different numbers. We will be introducing a new mathematical resource called a **rekenrek** to the children, which they will continue to use regularly during Key Stage One. We will use these to reinforce and practice our subitising, comparison, automatic recall of simple number facts, and exploration of number patterns.

### Understanding the World

Through our wider theme, we will be focusing on water, watery habitats, and start to learn about the water cycle. We will be using information books, iPads and computer programs to discover more information about the world around us. We will also start to take part in some simple scientific experimentation together, for instance learning about boats and linking this to floating and sinking, making predictions and observations together. Our focus book will give us opportunities to talk about the past, present and future too. Additionally, we will be looking at habitats

### RE

Our RE focus for this half term centres round the question "Who cares for this special world and why?" - This will lead us to talk about our environment and what the Bible says about how we can look after it.

### Expressive Art and Design

In addition to our class-based activities, the class will also have discrete music and art lessons with a specialist teacher every Tuesday.

*Art - Mrs Adams (will collect the children on Tuesday mornings):* In Art children will be making artistic projects linked to our wider theme.

*Music - Ms Fenner:* The children will learning how to identify known songs from hearing the pattern of their rhythms only and they will be developing their understanding of the difference between rhythm and pulse. They will be developing their pitch awareness and confidence in singing solo and they will be introduced to the concept of the musical rest.

### **EARLY LEARNING GOALS**

As you may be aware, as the end of the Reception year each child is assessed against 'Early Learning Goal' (ELG) statements in each of the seven areas of learning, and their progress noted as either 'Expected' (your child meets the early learning goal in this area, and is at the expected standard for Reception), or 'Emerging' (your child is working towards this ELG but has not currently met this expected standard).

You will receive all your child's ELG assessments in their end of year report. This information is, of course, picked up by their class teacher in Year 1, and used to support their learning going forward.

## RECEPTION ROUTINES AND INFORMATION

### Home Learning Arrangements and What Your Child Will Need Each Day

**Children's school bags should be brought into school every day, including their reading folder. Children should not bring any toys, books or food with them - we have everything they need. Please keep only the reading materials within the zipped reading folder.**

It is expected that children will read aloud and/or practice their letter sounds every night for at least 15 minutes at this crucial stage of learning to read. **Your child's reading will be really impacted by short, regular practice at home together, and we really recommend finding a time that works for you as a family for daily reading practice.**

### Week overview

Monday: Normal Day

Tuesday: Children should come to school in their St Mary's PE kit, and suitable footwear

Wednesday: Children should come to school in their St Mary's PE kit, and suitable footwear.

Thursday: Home learning should be returned completed and uploaded onto Microsoft Teams. We collect reading folders and hand out the following day.

Friday: New home learning and reading books will be placed in your child's reading folder. These should be completed by the following Thursday and uploaded to Microsoft Teams

## SUMMER WEATHER AND UNIFORM

As the weather gets warmer please ensure you apply sun cream and your child brings a **sun hat** (labelled with their name) to school. We spend a lot of time outside and it can get very hot. **Please apply sun cream on your child before coming to school.** We are not allowed to apply additional sun cream for the children so I recommend the 'all day' protection sun creams that are readily available. These have worked very well in previous years.

**Please ensure every item of your child's uniform is clearly labelled, including hats and cardigans!**

## DIARY DATES

3rd June - Summer 2 Term begins

7<sup>th</sup> June - Celebration Worship @9.15am - all invited

14<sup>th</sup> June - MUFTI Day (FoSMS)

21<sup>st</sup> June - Diversity Role Models in school / Anti-Bullying Day 3

26<sup>th</sup> June - Trip to London Wetlands Centre

28<sup>th</sup> June - FoSMS Summer Fair for children 3.20 - 5.00pm

5<sup>th</sup> July - Celebration Worship @ 9.15am

5<sup>th</sup> July - Annual Reports sent home

19<sup>th</sup> July - EYFS/KS1 Sports Day (children to be collected from Putney Common by 12:30)

23<sup>rd</sup> July - Celebration Worship at 9:15 / Last day of Summer 2 (school closes at 14:30)

### Donations

As it gets towards the end of the year, if you have any old uniform (even pants, socks and shoes) you no longer use would be very much appreciated for our spare sets; we are low on supplies at the moment! Alternatively, any donations in September.

### 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.

Communication

**If there are important messages** e.g. a query for the Reception team, or letting us know about pick up arrangements **please email [class2023@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:class2023@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk) before 8:45am: these will be checked once a day. A message after this should be phoned into the school office. If the child is going home with someone not known to the Reception staff we must be notified in advance otherwise we cannot release your child until we have spoken to you.**

Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern, our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Kerry Dunford. Her contact email is: [kdunford.212@lgflmail.org](mailto:kdunford.212@lgflmail.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](mailto:MASH@wandsworth.gov.uk).

Keep in the loop with social media

The school actively uses two social media platforms to communicate school news and events, so please check them out and follow us:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

Once again a huge thanks for your continued support and encouragement throughout this year! If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to speak to us or to email me via the class email.

Kendal McEvoy and Joanne Lane-Wood