

Reception Class Spring Newsletter



Welcome back and happy new year to you all. Thank you for all your cards, gifts and well wishes. We hope you had a fabulous time with your precious little ones this Christmas. Our primary aim this term continues to be to ensure that every child feels happy, safe and secure at St Mary's.



Our Big Question this term asks "What happened Once Upon a Time and what has changed?" A key focus will be to develop children's vocabulary and understanding around a variety of scientific concepts answering questions such as: What happens to ice? What can you see? Can you make a shadow? What sounds can you make? Which objects float? Which objects are magnetic? We will also find out about the famous scientist – Archimedes.



In Literacy we will be practicing retelling traditional stories and writing letters and invitations. We will learn to include finger spaces, full stops and capital letters correctly in our writing.

Please keep up daily reading of your home reading books.

During phonics we will learn to recognise and apply di-graphs and tri-graphs in our reading and writing – ai, ee, oo, igh, er, ar, or, oi, oa, ow, air, ear. Please help your child to blend sounds together to further develop their reading speed and fluency. The more the children practice their reading now the greater the progress in all aspects of their learning this year and beyond. Any questions please come and ask me anytime.



We will now complete a spelling test each Friday. Please see additional sheet (in your child's book bag) for further details.

We will continue to focus on every child forming every letter correctly. Breaking the bad habits of incorrect letter formation is proving to be a challenge! Whilst practicing spelling at home please be check and insist that your child uses the correct pencil grip, good seating posture and accurate letter formation every time. Unsupervised practice of incorrect letter formation can lead to bad habits which are so hard to correct. If you need any help – please ask



In Maths we will be learning about each number up to 10. For each number children will need to know

- one more and one less than
- their number bonds eg $10 = 1+9, 2+8, 3+7, 4+6, 5+5$ or $6 = 1+5, 2+4, 3+3$ etc.
- be able to subitise. This means look and say the amount without counting.
- Write each number correctly.

We will also be comparing mass – heavier and lighter. Measuring capacity – full and empty. We will compare height and length – taller and shorter, longer and shorter. Measure time and learn the days of the week.



In RE we will be finding out about where do we belong? We will learn about who is special in our daily lives. We will be inviting visitors from the: police, priest, paramedic, nurse and our site manager to tell us more about their jobs and how they help people.

If you think you can help us with any of these or other roles, please let me know. We will also be listening to stories of Jesus and the people he helped and the miracles he performed. We will learn about how babies are welcomed in the Christian, Hindu and Muslim faiths. We will also look at traditions from other cultures and in particular the Chinese New Year to find out how this is celebrated.



This term our PE days are Thursday and Friday Please ensure children have their PE kits in school.

Finally I would like to thank you for all your continued support. If you ever have any worries or concerns (no matter how big or small) please do not hesitate to come and ask.

We look forward to continuing to excite and engage the children in their learning and enjoy their first year at St. Mary's.

Miss Zylko, Mrs Shaw, Mrs Adams, Miss Marsden and Mr Napier