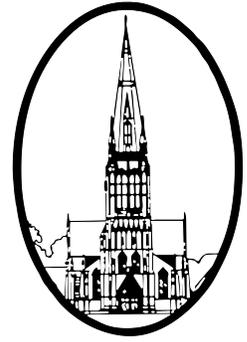


St. Mary's C. of E. Primary School
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Phone: 020 8800 2645 Fax: 020 8802 1687
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Headteacher: Jane O'Brien

*'Through God's love, we strive to be
the best we can be.'*

Thursday 6th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had an enjoyable summer holiday. We are very excited to get to know the children coming up from the nursery as well as new children starting at St. Mary's this year.

At St. Mary's the children's learning will be linked to a different topic every half term. Your child's topic this half term is:

Family & Friends

During this topic, the children will have the chance to find out all about themselves and their new friends. They will learn about their bodies, make self-portraits, discuss their likes and dislikes; they will be able to describe themselves in positive terms and will also learn about each other's interests and families.

Here are some of the areas that will be covered this half term:

Literacy	Hearing, saying and writing the initial sounds in words. Name writing and beginning to write other familiar words.
Maths	Counting, recognising & ordering numbers to 20, identifying the names and properties of 2D shapes, understanding and using positional language.
RE	Who made the wonderful World?

Music

The children will have music every Tuesday with an experienced music teacher, Susan Orme, Music ignites all areas of child development: intellectual, social and emotional, motor, language, and overall literacy. It helps the body and the mind work together.

Reading

Every child will be given a red bag when they first start at St. Mary's. Books will be changed **every Friday** so please ensure your child comes to school with their '**red bags**' with the previous book and reading log inside. We expect that you share a book with your child for 10 – 20 minutes each day and to fill out the orange reading log. For the first half of the term the children will choose a book from the classroom to take home and share with an adult. In the second half of the autumn term, your child will start to take home a reading book that's at their own reading level each week.

Spellings

During the second half of the term your child will be sent home with 'Spellings' each **Friday**. The expectation is that the child practises **reading & writing** these words throughout the week and then they will practise writing them in school the following Friday. Most of these words will be '**tricky**' words which are words that cannot be sounded out.

School Shoes

All children in nursery and reception must wear black school shoes (not black trainers) when coming to school.

Change of clothes

Please ensure your child has a change of clothes with them every day in case of any accidents/wet play.

Junk modelling

In Reception we are constantly using our imaginations to construct and build. We use various materials to do this, including empty food boxes, empty drink containers and caps, loo rolls, etc. Please feel free to bring in these types of items any time for us to use.

We look forward to working with you all during what I'm sure will be a successful school year. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come and speak to us after school or arrange a meeting when convenient.

Yours Sincerely,

The Reception Team