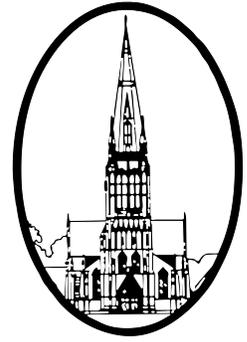


St. Mary's C. of E. Primary School
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Headteacher: Jane O'Brien

*"St Mary's... feeding the mind, body and
spirit so we can be the best we can be."*



Monday 5th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your children had a nice summer break. I am 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. Here in Reception class 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 (Autumn 1) is:

All about me

During this topic, the children will have the chance to find out all about themselves, their new friends and the adults who work with them. 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, sorting, matching, comparing and patterns.
RE	Creation - Who made the wonderful World?

Music

The children will have music every Monday with our music teacher Mr Cook and each Friday we will have a music instruments lesson. 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.

Spanish

Every Tuesday the children will also have a Spanish lesson with our school Spanish teacher Senior Enric. By the end of the year this children will be able to count to 10 in Spanish and know the names many animals, modes of transport, colours and fruit in Spanish.

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 bag** with the previous book and reading log inside. We expect that you share a book with your child for 5-10 minutes each day and to fill out the orange reading log.

It very important that we implement a love of books and reading from a very young age so please support me by enjoying reading and books at home. At the appropriate time your child will begin to bring home levelled reading books linked to their phonics learning that I would like them to spend 5 minutes a day reading to you at home.

Phonics

During the whole of the Reception year there will be a big focus on phonics. Here at St Mary's we use the 'Little Wandle' phonics program and we will be starting at Phase 2. Phonics is the foundation of writing and reading in school so it's really important. A way for you to support your child with phonics at home to ask them what new sound they learnt that day.

On Tuesday 18th October at 3:30 there will be a phonics workshop for parents to attend. Please do everything you can to attend as it will help you support your child going forward.

Water bottle

It is very important that every child brings in a water bottle **every day**.

Change of clothes

Please can you bring into school a change of clothes and underwear for your child that will be kept on their peg in the case of any spills or accidents in school. These will be returned at the end of the school year.

Junk modelling

In Reception we are constantly using our imaginations to construct and build. We use various materials to do this at the sticking table each day and it would be great if you could wash and bring in some recycling from home for the children to use. Things we like to use are; empty food boxes (no trace of nuts), empty drink containers and caps (not milk), loo rolls, plastic bottles etc.

I look forward to working with you all during what I'm sure will be a successful school year. However, if you have any questions, comments or concerns and would like to talk to me please call the St Mary's school office and leave a message, I will then call you back at a convenient time.

Many thanks,

Miss Mackay
Reception Class Teacher