



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

**Year 2: Half Termly Letter to Parents
Autumn 1, September 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 2!

Our aim is to fill the children with an excitement for learning and have as many "WOW!" moments this year as possible whilst maintaining a safe environment for all. With this in mind, we have adapted our curriculum in places to meet the needs of the children as they return to school.

Every school year is a step up from the previous, but we are looking forward to helping your children make this transition and successfully manoeuvre the changes between Year 1 and Year 2.

In Year 2, children are encouraged to be more independent and take on more responsibility for themselves, their property and their learning.

The Year 2 Team

The Year 2 team this year is:

Miss Alisha McCarthy (Class Teacher)

Mrs Irene Ford (Teaching Assistant)

Miss Ricceri (Learning Support Assistant)

On Tuesdays, the class will be taught by specialist staff: Mrs Adams for Art and Design, Mrs Le Prevost for Music and Coach V for PE.

Coronavirus Pandemic

The school continues to follow guidance from the Department for Education and at this present time we can return to a more 'normal' school life akin to prior the pandemic. This will no doubt be of great happiness, and we pray that any disruptions to education will be minimal. The school has updated its COVID-19 Risk Assessment to reflect the current guidance and this can be viewed on our school website here: <http://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/coronavirus-information/>

Safeguarding

Safeguarding the children at St. Mary's is the responsibility of all staff, parents and professionals who come on site. If you have a safeguarding concern, our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Mrs Kerry Dunford. Her contact email is: kdunford.212@lgflmail.org.

If there are safeguarding concerns, which take place 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.

The Curriculum

Your child will continue to follow the national curriculum's Key Stage One programme of study. However, to help cover identified gaps or missed learning from the pandemic in the previous year; we will also go over key objectives deemed essential for progression. This will likely take the form of review or catch up sessions prior to starting any new content for the Year 2 curriculum.

We would normally outline the planned curriculum intent for the half term in this newsletter. However, there are now clear statements on the school website, which lay out what curriculum content will be taught in each year group across the year.

To view the Year 2 curriculum intent please see the Year 2 Curriculum Map, which can be viewed on our school website here: <http://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/our-curriculum/#curric>

We will be following the content outlined in the autumn term.

PE Arrangements

This year your child's PE lessons will take place every **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. Your child can attend school on these days wearing the St. Mary's PE kit. If your child takes part in a school sports club before or after school on a **non-PE** day, they are required to change i.e. sports club before school then bring school uniform to change into and after school bring PE kit to get changed into.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S PE KIT (AND SUITABLE FOOTWEAR - TRAINERS FOR OUTDOORS) IS IN SCHOOL ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - LABELLED CLEARLY.

Home Learning Arrangements

There will be weekly home learning as follows:

- **Spellings:** Spelling cards will be sent home at the start of each half term. Weekly spellings are tested on Friday. Please ensure that your child brings their spelling card to school on a **Friday** so that we can mark down their score for you to see how they did and what they might need to work on.
- **Dictation:** Dictation cards are sent home the week **after** spelling cards and are to be completed by the following Wednesday. The due dates will be written on the cards to help you! The dictation helps us to see what your child has been able to retain and what we might need to go over again so please do not let your child see the card before writing and please do leave in any mistakes that your child might make.
- **Grammar:** reinforcement sheets will be sent home during the week, for the children to complete and to let you know what we have been covering in class. These are for your reference and do not need to be returned.
- **Handwriting:** Handwriting reinforcement is to be completed using the Letter Join online programme (login: lj9376 password: home). As the children have very different needs with regard to handwriting, I recommend you go into the Year 2 folder and chose an appropriate letter pattern each week, to suite your child's ability. In class we are focusing on correct posture for handwriting and basic pattern formation.
- **Times Tables:** Please practice regularly - tested every **Friday**.
- **Reading:** It is expected that children will read aloud every night for at least 10 minutes. It is important that the children read aloud to you regularly and they also benefit greatly from you reading to them. Reading things such as articles in encyclopedias, newspaper, recipes, instruction texts, etc. Will broaden their understanding of reading across different contexts too. Inside the front and back covers of the Oxford Reading Tree books, there are useful questions to ask your child to probe their understanding of the text. Reading folders to be returned to school every **Wednesday only**, in order to limit the amount of items brought back and forward into school each day. Class teachers will be listening and assessing reading using other books during the course of the week. Reading folders will be returned home every **Thursday** after book change. Could you please ensure that you write in the Reading Journal when your child has finished their books, otherwise we'll assume they haven't been read and they won't be changed! Books will be changed, if requested, on **WEDNESDAYS**

ONLY. Any other comments or feedback regarding your child's reading are always welcome via the online PACT book.

- **Maths:** Children to complete assigned online tasks on Mathletics. Login details to be sent home via your child.

All home learning is set on Friday to be returned/completed by the following Wednesday

Communication

If you have any queries about the daily routine or what your child is learning, or perhaps to inform us of other matters relating to your child, then do not hesitate to get in touch with any member of the Year 2 team. As always the best way to do this is through the use of your child's PACT. The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate in using it.

The address is: Class2019@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.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/>

Starting a new school year normally comes with its challenges and anxiety but feelings might be more heightened this year with the effects of Covid-19, but it's also the beginning of an exciting journey.

We are all in this together; please remember that we are here to support you and your child. If you have any concerns, please use the PACT e-mail to let us know.

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Regards,

Alisha McCarthy