



## 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

*Spring Term 1, January 2024*

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Happy New Year! We are pleased to welcome back the children into class and to see how quickly they have settled back into routines and learning.

We hope that you all enjoyed the holidays and are looking forward to the year ahead.

Some of the learning opportunities for this half-term include; learning about inventions and discoveries by looking at women who changed the world in history, designing a creature that will move using a linkage mechanism in Design and Technology which links to our English class text - Dragon Machine by Helen Ward! The children are very excited to begin our class text after discovering and investigating a nest, eggs and several large animal footprints in the classroom this week!



We look forward to your continued support throughout 2024 and hope that we can all look forward to a very happy and healthy year working together.

#### The Curriculum

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 spring term.

However, for Mathematics we are reviewing our knowledge of shapes for the first week before moving on to money, which is outlined in the spring term.

#### Classroom resources

Thank you for contributing to our class cake sale, which has resulted in an impressive amount for our Year 2 class budget - thanks to everyone for their support with this. We will be buying some new classroom resources for your children to make use of during their time in Year 2. We have decided to spend the money on wet play/outdoor activities such as chess sets, board games basketball, netball, clipboards, chalk and art and craft supplies for DT projects and cushions for our reading corner.

#### 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).

#### PE Arrangements

PE lessons will continue to 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 please **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:

**Home Learning**

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

**Maths:** Children to complete assigned online tasks on Mathletics

**Dictation:** Dictation covers the spelling pattern from the previous week to check that your child can recall the spelling rule and not just rote learn for the test. The due dates are 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 program ([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 choose an appropriate letter pattern each week, to suite your child's ability. In class we are focusing on correct posture for handwriting, basic pattern formation and horizontal and diagonal joins.

**Spellings:** Spelling 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.

**Reading:**

**The more you read, the more you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go!**

Reading is a primary focus of the school and Year 2. I have noticed a dip in the regularity in which the children are reading each week. To encourage reading every day, on a Wednesday evening, reading journals will be checked and a sticker awarded for children who have read more than 5 times. After they receive 3 stickers, they will be given 10 family points and a star on the class reward chart.

We expect that children will read aloud every night for at least 10 minutes. Inside the front and back covers of the books, there are useful questions to ask your child to probe their understanding of the text. Please refer to these before, during and after reading together. Reading folders should be brought into school every day in order to enable us to read with your child at school as well. Every week, all children will read with an adult (whether the class teacher, teaching assistant or a volunteer) either during a guided reading session or individually (depending on your child's reading needs). All children will read with the class teacher every other week during a guided reading session. Reading books are changed on a **Wednesday evening**. We will keep reading folders overnight on a Wednesday and they will be returned home every **Thursday** after book change. Please ensure that you write in the Reading Record when your child needs new books, otherwise they will not be changed! Books are changed, if requested, on **WEDNESDAYS ONLY**. We cannot guarantee that books can be changed after this. Any other comments or feedback regarding your child's reading is always welcome via the online PACT book.

**Home learning will not be set during holidays**

Diary dates

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 9.15am - Celebration Worship (in school hall)

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 2pm - Parent volunteer induction session

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 at 9.15am - Celebration Worship (in school hall)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 - Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 - Safer Internet Day

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 - FOSM Cycle Event

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 3.20pm - End of Spring Term 1

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: [Class2021@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:Class2021@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/>

Wishing you all the best for the term ahead.

Kindest regards,

Miss McCarthy & Mrs Flavin