



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 1: Half-Termly Letter to Parents

Autumn Term 1, September 2025

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Welcome to Year 1 - this is your child's first year in Key Stage One and their first year on the Primary Curriculum! The move from Reception to Year 1 can be a big step for the children but the Year 1 Team will, of course, be on hand to help make the transition as easy as possible and to support both the children and yourselves. This is a transitional year during which the children will be taught skills to build their independence as well as build on the foundational learning blocks acquired in the EYFS. We have lots of fun planned for this half term and are looking forward to getting into our learning!



The Year 1 Team

Our Year 1 teaching and learning team this year is:

Miss Alisha McCarthy

Miss Lauren Monaco

On Mondays, the class will be taught by specialist staff: Mrs Bosley (Art and Design), Ms Fenner (Music) and Mr. Philips (PE).

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 Miss Cheryl Payne. Her contact email is: dsl@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk.

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 now follow the National Curriculum's Key Stage One programme of study. However, to help cover identified gaps, 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 1 curriculum.

There are 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 1 curriculum intent please see the Year 1 Curriculum Map, which can be viewed on our school website here: <http://www.stmarysschoolputney.co.uk/curriculum/y1/>

We will be following the content outlined in the Autumn Term.

PE Arrangements

This year your child's PE lessons will take place every **Monday** and **Friday**. Your child should come to school on these days wearing the St. Mary's PE kit and appropriate shoes. 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 MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS AND IS LABELLED CLEARLY WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

School Trips

We plan to conduct several school trips over the course of the academic year to complement your child's learning experience. During the autumn term, we plan for Year 1 to visit a local restaurant in Putney - to aid their learning in DT on cooking and nutrition where they will be learning to know where and how fruit and vegetables grow, taste different foods, describe appearance, smell and taste, use cooking skills such as chopping and conclude with making a smoothie.

This trip is covered by the local permission slip.

If you would like to volunteer as a helper on a school trip, you must hold a DBS with the school and have taken part in our volunteer induction. Please contact the school office for details on how to become a school volunteer. To support our science learning on materials and their real-world applications, Year 1 will have an exciting trip to Gootopia. More details on both trips to follow!

Home Learning Arrangements

Home Learning will be set on a **Friday** and will be due the following **Wednesday**. Please ensure you/your child has access to Microsoft Teams, as on occasions home learning will be posted via that platform. If you have misplaced your login please contact myself via the PACT email or the office who can reset/issue you login details.

There will be weekly home learning as follows:

- **Spellings:** Spelling cards will be emailed. Physical copies will be sent home after the first spelling test (12th September 2025). 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 begins the week **after** the first spelling test (19th September 2025). A physical card will be sent home alongside a dictation book for your child to complete their dictation. Dictation is set on Fridays and is 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 leave in any mistakes that your child might make.
- **Grammar:** reinforcement sheets will be emailed on a Friday to let you know what we have been covering in class. These are for your reference and do not need to be returned.
- **Reading:** It is expected that children will read aloud every night for at least 10 minutes. 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. Please refer to these before, during and after reading together. Reading folders should be brought into school every day to enable us to read with your child. Reading books will be 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. Could you please ensure that you write in the Reading Journal when your child needs new books, otherwise they won't be changed! Books will be changed, if requested, on **WEDNESDAYS ONLY**.
- **Maths:** This will be set on **Friday** via Mathletics. Your child will be set two tasks on Mathletics which should be completed by the following Wednesday. Login details should be stapled to your child's Reading Record Book.

Communication

If you have any queries about the daily routine or what your child is learning, or to inform us of other matters relating to your child (e.g. if your child is being collected by someone who does not usually collect them), then do not hesitate to get in touch with any member of the Year 1 team. As always, the best way to do this is through the use of your child's PACT e-mail. The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate to use it. The address is: Class2024@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:

X <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

Dates for Your Diary:

- **Wednesday 3rd September 2025 at 8.50am** - Start of new Academic Year and Autumn Term 1
- **Sunday 7th September 2025 at 10.00am** - Back Pack Blessing Service at St Mary's Church
- **Monday 15th September 2025** - Activity Clubs Start
- **Thursday 25th September 2025 at 6pm** - Year 1 Meet the Teacher presentation (Year 1 classroom)
- **Friday 26th September 2025 at 9.15am** - Celebration Worship
- **Tuesday 30th September at 6pm** - Volunteer Induction
- **Friday 3rd October 2025 at 9.45am** - Harvest Festival Service (at St. Mary's Church)
- **Monday 13th October 2025** - Flu Immunisations in school
- **Tuesday 21st October 2025** - Open Day 4-6pm
- **Friday 24th October 2025 at 9.15am** - Celebration Worship
- **Friday 24th October 2024 at 3.20pm** - End of Autumn Term 1 and start of half term break
- **Monday 3rd November 2025** - Staff INSET Day (school closed to pupils)
- **Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 8.50am** - Start of Autumn Term 2
- **Wednesday 5th November 2025** - Individual school photographs

Starting a new school year can indeed be both exciting and challenging. If there is anything specific you are worried about or if your child is struggling with the transition, please let us know. We are here to help and can provide support tailored to their needs. Feel free to share any concerns or issues so we can work together to ensure a smooth and successful school year for your child.

Wishing your child a great return to school.
All the best for the term ahead!

Kindest regards,
Miss McCarthy