



## 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 2, November 2025**

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. I hope that you all had a fun and restful half term break and that the children are ready for another packed half term. The children have all worked hard to settle into the new routines and expectations and are doing a fantastic job meeting the Year 1 expectations. Thank you for all your support in this - they have already come so far and I hope that they will continue to grow and progress over this half term. The children are excited about our new learning and are tackling all tasks and challenges with enthusiasm. Long may this continue!

#### The Curriculum

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/our-curriculum/#curric>

We will continue to follow the content outlined in the autumn term.

#### School Trips

This half term, we will be going on two school trips. The first trip is a local trip to Octagreen Restaurant. The purpose of this visit is to give the children an exciting opportunity to apply the Design Technology (DT) skills they have learned in nutrition and cooking by creating their own smoothie. Please see details on permission slip letter sent before the half-term break. On our second trip we're off to Wandsworth Civic Suite to enjoy Rhymes, Rhythm and Rap! The children will watch amazing performances by poets and storytellers including Zohab Zee Khan, Pomme, Joseph Coelho and a Beatbox Academy guest - a brilliant way to see poetry come to life and gain inspiration for their own performances this term. More details to follow separately.

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto:MASH@wandsworth.gov.uk).

#### PE Arrangements

PE lessons will continue to take place every **Monday** and **Thursday**. Your child should 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 MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS - LABELLED CLEARLY.**

### Home Learning Arrangements

Home Learning will be set on a **Friday** and will be due the following **Wednesday**.

There will be weekly home learning as follows:

- **Spellings:** Physical copies of Spelling cards will be sent home after the first spelling test (14th November 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.
- **Please note that the first spelling test after each half term is an assessment check to see how well the children have remembered the spelling patterns, sounds, and tricky words covered during the previous term. After this assessment, a physical copy of your child's new spelling card will be sent home - usually on the second Friday after returning from a holiday.**
- **Dictation:** Dictation cards will be sent home the week **after** spelling cards and are to be completed by the following Wednesday. The due dates are written on the cards to help you! Please do not go ahead. 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.
- **Reading:** 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 child will read with an adult (whether the class teacher, teaching assistant or a volunteer) every week. Every child will read with the class teacher every two weeks and a comment will be written in their Reading Record book. This will either take place in a group guided shared reading session or individually (depending on your child's reading needs).
- 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.
- **Maths:** This will be set on **Friday** please refer to your child's home learning book and complete at least one of the options. This should be completed by the following **Wednesday**. Please also look at Friday update emails for areas in which you could further support your child's learning.

### Diary Dates

- **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - Individual School Photos
- **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - Y1 Trip to Octagreen (no packed lunch required)
- **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - Year 1 Cake Sale (Thank you in advance for all your support!)
- **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - **Start of Anti-Bullying Week**
- **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - Armistice Day
- **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - Wicked Workshops - Anti-Bullying Week!
- **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - **Odd Socks Day!** Children to wear odd socks to school - a fun way to mark Anti-Bullying Week and to celebrate that we are all unique!
- **Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 6pm** - Volunteer Induction
- **Wednesday 19th November 2025** - Y1 Trip to Wandsworth Civic Suite (no packed lunch required)

- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 9.10am** - Celebration Worship - Lighting of the Christmas Tree (in school hall)
- **3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - Progress in Learning meetings
- **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - FOSMs Christmas Fair
- **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - KS1/KS2 The Snow Queen Pantomime (in school hall)
- **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - Dress rehearsal (children to wear their Nativity costume into school in the morning details to follow separately)
- **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - EYFS/KS1 Nativity at St Mary's Church at 9.45-10.45
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 9.10am** - Celebration Worship
- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 2.30pm** - Last day of term
- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026** - **Staff INSET Day (school closed to pupils)**
- **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 8.45am** - First day of the spring term (**Children to wear PE kits to school**)

#### Show and Tell -

This half term our focus is poetry. Please see dates for performances of poems below.

Please help your child to learn a poem. Either one of their choice or one from the selection that I emailed before half-term.

It is a statutory requirement in the National Curriculum that children learn to recite poems from heart. Learning to retell a poem from memory is challenging and with this in mind the selected poems have been chosen for their use or rhythm, rhyme and imagery. Encourage your child to perform their poem by perhaps using movement, gestures and/or changing the level of their voices.

|               |                           |              |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Yellow Family | 21 <sup>st</sup> November | Green Family | 28 <sup>th</sup> November |
| Blue Family   | 5 <sup>th</sup> December  | Red Family   | 12 <sup>th</sup> December |

#### 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 PACT e-mail. 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:

[Class2024@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:Class2024@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Best wishes for the term ahead.

Kindest regards,  
Miss McCarthy