



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

Summer Term 1, April 2026

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

We hope you had a restful Easter break—it's been lovely welcoming the children back for the Summer Term!

We have an exciting six weeks ahead, including DT Day (with a sewing project!), Earth Day, a new class text, and celebrating our learning about Judaism in RE by tasting Jewish food and sharing our knowledge. We will then connect our learning to Christianity through our new RE theme of creation. Alongside our exciting trip to Legoland.



If you'd like to volunteer for DT Day, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you, as always, for your support—we're looking forward to a happy and successful term!

School Trip

We are excited to announce that this half-term, on the 14th of May, we will be going on a school trip to LEGOLAND! This trip will support our geography learning as we take part in a workshop called 'Around the World,' more details will follow in a separate letter.

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 be following the content outlined in the Summer Term.

The texts we will be exploring in English differs slightly from those outlined in the Year 1 curriculum map on our website. We will continue with *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett, as the children are excited to discover who the six eggs belong to. We will then move on to *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish* by Michael Foreman, which links closely to Earth Day on 22nd April. These texts are part of our Literacy Tree approach, supporting rich, engaging and vocabulary-focused learning.

Please don't explore these texts at home yet—we'll be working through them together in class and want to avoid spoilers. Knowing key events in advance can limit children's creativity and independence in their writing.

Check my Friday updates to see when we've finished each text. At that point, revisiting the story at home is highly encouraged—re-reading builds fluency, deepens understanding, expands vocabulary, and boosts confidence and enjoyment in reading.

PE Arrangements

PE lessons will continue to take place every **Monday** and **Friday**. 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 be changed into.



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

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 Mr James Phillips. Contact email for any concerns can be sent to:

info@st-marys-school.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.

Reading

We want to also take a moment to emphasize the importance of reading regularly and reviewing phonics at home. Research shows that reading daily is crucial to your child's development.

According to the UK Department for Education, "children who read for pleasure are more likely to have a higher academic achievement," and "reading regularly helps children develop a broader vocabulary and better comprehension skills."

As we prepare for the Key Stage 1 National Curriculum Phonics Screening Check, regular practice at home will help your child feel confident. The check, which takes place in June, helps assess if your child has met the expected standard for phonics. Research from the UK Literacy Association also shows that "early phonics teaching is essential in supporting children's long-term reading success." By practicing phonics and reading together regularly, you'll help ensure your child is well-prepared.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child succeed!

Home Learning

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

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.

Dictation: Dictation cards will be sent home the week after spelling cards and are to be completed by the following **Wednesday**. 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: Optional handwriting reinforcement can be completed using the Letter Join online program (**Login/username:** | **st-marys-putney_1** **Password:** **felsham1**). As the children have very different needs with regard to handwriting, I recommend you go into the Year 1 folder and choose an appropriate letter pattern each week, to suit your child's ability.

Spellings: Physical copies of Spelling cards will be sent home after the first spelling test (6th March 2026). 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.

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. 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, if possible, please just keep up reading and reviewing spellings.

Diary dates

Wednesday 22nd April 2026 - Earth Day

Friday 24th April 2026 - Celebration Worship at 9.15am

Thursday 30th April 2026 - Drama4All Workshop

Monday 4th May 2025 - Bank Holiday

Wednesday 6th May - Year 1 DT Day

Thursday 14th May 2025 - Year One Trip to LEGOLAND - *PE Kits to be worn & a packed lunch needed.*

Friday 22nd May 2026 - Celebration Worship at 9.15am

Friday 22nd May 2026 at 3.20pm - End of Summer Term 1

Show and Tell Dates - To prepare your child for show and tell, you can help them choose an item they are interested in, practice with them, giving them reminders about their volume, eye contact and expression to engage the audience. You can also help them think about questions that classmates might ask and how they might respond.

Yellow Family	17 th April 2026
Green Family	24 th April 2026
Blue Family	1 st May 2026
Red Family	8 th May 2026

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

Best wishes for the term ahead.

Kindest regards,

Miss McCarthy and Miss Monaco