



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 2, June 2026

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful break, filled with fun and special moments together. It has been lovely to welcome the children back - they have returned full of energy and excitement, ready for the adventures of our final half term together.



It is hard to believe that this is our last term! While that thought brings a little sadness, we are incredibly proud of how much the children have grown - not just academically, but in confidence and independence.

This half term promises to be both busy and exciting, with lots of engaging activities planned as we start preparing for the transition to Year 2.

We are looking forward to making the most of the weeks ahead, filled with fun and plenty of memorable moments as we wrap up a wonderful year together.

School Trips - Learning Beyond the Classroom

This half term, Year 1 will enjoy a couple of opportunities to take their learning outside!

First up, we'll be visiting St Mary's Church for our Godly Play session. Where, through storytelling, hand-on-materials, and open-ended questions, the children will be encouraged to reflect, wonder, and explore their thoughts and feelings about the story they have heard. It's a lovely chance for them to develop their spiritual understanding in a calm and creative way. As this is a local trip, it is covered by the local permission slip you signed at the beginning of the year.

Later in the term, we'll head to Holland Park Ecology Centre to bring our science learning on plants to life. More details will follow soon!

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 for the Summer Term. The texts we explore in English will vary slightly from those listed on the Year 1 curriculum map on our website, as we continue to follow our Literacy Tree approach, which supports rich, engaging and vocabulary-focused learning.

We will begin by continuing with *Beegu* by Alexis Deacon, as the children are excited to create and write their own alien stories. We will then move on to *Stella and the Seagull* by Georgina Stevens, before finishing the term with *Lubna and the Pebble*. This final text links perfectly with the summer season, as we all look forward to some fun at the beach!

Please avoid reading these texts at home for now, as we'll be exploring them together in class. Knowing important plot points ahead of time can affect the children's originality and confidence when developing their own ideas in their writing.

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, please contact me directly as I am the



Designated Safeguarding Lead in school. My contact email is 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.

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.

Reading and Vocabulary

Reading regularly at home makes a big difference in your child's learning. Just 10-15 minutes a day helps build their confidence, vocabulary, improve comprehension and critical thinking and their love of books. To keep up the momentum over the holidays, don't forget to check out the Summer Reading Challenge at the library. It's a fun and free way to get your child excited about reading and they'll even earn a certificate as a reward!

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child grow as a reader,

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check will take place at the beginning of June. The best way to support your child is by encouraging regular reading at home, reviewing their sounds daily, and ensuring they get plenty of sleep and a healthy breakfast each morning.

Please remember there is no need to worry — we practice phonics every day in school and have been regularly reviewing all sounds and real/nonsense words with the children. We keep the sessions relaxed and positive, so the children do not see it as a "test" and are approaching it calmly and confidently. Thank you for your continued support at home.

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

Friday 5th June 2026 - - Y1 Cake sale (Thank you in advance for your help and support raising money for class resources)

Thursday 18th June 2026 - Godly play at St Mary's Church (Morning visit only (9-12) if you can assist with walking to church and back please let me know via email)

Friday 26th June 2026 - Celebration Worship at 9.15am

Saturday 27th June 2026 - FOSMS Summer Fair

Friday 3rd July 2026 - EYFS/KS1 Sports Day - PE kits need to be worn (children are collected early on this day. Please see separate letter that will be sent for more information)

Thursday 9th July 2026 - Year One Trip to Holland Park Ecology Centre - PE Kits to be worn

Friday 17th July 2026 - Celebration Worship at 9.15am

Friday 17th July 2026 at 2.30pm - End of Summer Term 2 - Schools out for the summer!



Show and Tell - A Spotlight on Poetry!

This half-term, we will delve into performing poetry instead of Show and Tell.

As part of the National Curriculum, all children are expected to learn and recite poems from memory. While this can be a bit of a challenge, it is also a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, develop a love of language, and have fun along the way! To help with this, I've previously shared a list of poems chosen especially for their rhythm, rhyme, and vivid imagery - all things that make them easier (and more enjoyable) to remember. Of course, your child can choose a favourite poem of their own, or even write one themselves!

Please support your child by helping them to practice at home. Encourage them to bring their poem to life with energy and enthusiasm - using movement, gestures, and changes in voice to make their performance expressive and memorable. Performing poetry is not just about words; it's about storytelling, imagination, and creativity! Thank you so much for your continued support - We can't wait to see the wonderful performances ahead!

Performance Dates:

Green Family	Yellow Family	16 th June 2026
Red Family	Blue Family	19 th June 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

Here's to a lovely final half term together!

With warmest wishes,

Miss McCarthy and Miss Monaco