



Autumn Term 2023 Newsletter

Buttercup and Marigold Classes

Dear Year 2 Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to school and we hope you had a restful summer! The children have settled in to their new classes well and are very excited about the year ahead. We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled term with a variety of learning opportunities. We believe that parents and staff work best in partnership, so please come and talk to us if there is anything that you are unsure about.

Curriculum

We have got a busy term ahead! Please see the Topic Map for information on this term's curriculum and please come and ask if you have any questions.

Home Learning

Reading books – reading at home is so important to further develop your child's love of reading. We will issue a new reading book every **Friday**. Please return on **Wednesday**. Children will bring home a levelled book based on the level they are reading in school. They will also be able to choose a free choice from the Class Library.

In addition to these, we strongly encourage children to read a book from our **Reading Challenge** scheme. These books will have a sticker on the front labelled 'Year 2'. On the return of the book, they will receive a sticker on their record cards indicating a **bronze**, **silver** or **gold** book has been read. Once all the books in the level have been read, they will receive a special award badge and will be acknowledged on the school website. Please ensure you read with your child and that these books are returned at the end of each week as we only have a very limited number of each book.

We expect the children to read for at least 15 minutes at home daily. Please comment in their reading record books so that we know that the children have read at home.

Spelling practice – the children will be given a login for Spelling Shed to access a game with the week's spellings. They must practice these words in their homework books and write them in sentences.

Mathematics homework: A sheet will be added to the homework book and must be completed in pencil only. Sometimes they might get games to play with you as homework.

Numbots will continue this year. A login sticker will be added to the homework book.

Phonics revision – please continue to revisit all phonics phases.

Specialist Teachers

Your child's specialist PE and Art sessions will happen every **Thursday**. Please make sure children come into school wearing their PE kit. This consists of a plain house coloured t-shirt, black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and black trainers. In the winter please ensure they have a fleece or sweatshirt.

Children will also have a specialist music lesson every **Monday**.

In Autumn 2, we will also start our **French** lessons with Madame Abernethy.

Trips

We are excited to take the children on lots of amazing trips this year. This term we will be visiting: The Tower of London and the Science Museum. Please look out for a letter with further information.

Punctuality & Attendance

It continues to be really important that children arrive and are collected promptly.

START OF THE DAY: Doors open at 8:50am for 9:00am start

END OF THE DAY: 3:30pm

Attendance is compulsory for all children. Regular contact and communication to our office about illness, medical appointments and absence is crucial.

Please contact the school office if you have any questions:

Office: 020 8340 4898

Email: office@stmarysn8.co.uk

General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls etc.
- Children are encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit to eat during morning playtime and a bottle of water.
- Children in Year 2 are not to bring mobile phones to school.
- We would like to remind parents that the school has a no jewellery policy, and earrings should be studs only, please. Nail polish is not allowed.
- If your child has long hair, please make sure it is tied back.
- Please also ensure that your child wears **black shoes** to school. If trainers, these must be completely black with no bright logos, flashing details or coloured laces/soles.
- We are a strictly nut-free school; please remember this for packed lunches and party/birthday treats.
- We are strictly a latex-free school, i.e. no latex materials including balloons, rubber bands, latex gloves etc.

*Please keep up to date with news on our website [here](#)

Key Dates

Please look out for the main newsletters as well as emails/text messages from the Admin Team.

- Wednesday 4th October: Harvest Festival Assembly @ 9.30am
- Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October: Half term – school closed
- Monday 30th October: INSET day – school closed to children
- Tuesday 31st October: Children return to school

*You can find the above dates and more on our calendar [here](#)

If there is anything that you would like to talk to us about, please feel free to talk to us after school, or make an appointment via the school office.

Mrs Molloy and Ms Halil and the Year 2 Team