



# Spring 2024 Newsletter

## Saffron and Tangerine Classes

### Welcome back

Happy New Year and we hope that you all had an enjoyable festive break. A huge thanks for all the lovely Christmas treats.

### Curriculum

We have got a busy term ahead! Please see the Topic Map for information detailing this term's curriculum and if you have any questions, please ask any member of staff in the Year 1 Team.

### Home Learning

Phonics is a huge part of your child's learning in Year 1 so please continue to support your child by practising their phonic sounds and corresponding letters through writing their name, writing words and sentences, creating stories or even writing this week's shopping list.

It is important that your child develops a love for reading, as this early engagement will support your child with their fluency, expression and understanding of what they are reading. We eagerly encourage you to read to your child but also listen to them read their decodable phonics book on a daily basis. Every Friday, a reading record will be sent home with a new decodable phonics book at their level as well as a library book for you to read to them. We encourage you to ask questions, to build on their comprehension and also write a brief comment on their reading in the reading record to give us a record of their progress and achievements.

In Maths, you could help your child's counting skills by counting objects to 20, writing and ordering the numbers to 20 (in numerals and words) and learning their number bonds to 10.

### Specialist Teachers

Your child's specialist PE and Art sessions will continue to 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 Wednesday.

### Punctuality & Attendance

It is really important that your child arrives at school promptly every day to help them settle in to their learning routines. It is also important to be collected promptly.

**GATE OPENS: 8.50am**

**START OF THE DAY: 9am**

**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](mailto:office@stmarysn8.co.uk)

## **Trips**

This term we have plans to take the children to the Natural History Museum and a walking tour of London's landmarks. Please look out for a letter with further information.

## **General Reminders**

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls, water bottles etc.  
**PE Kit** - children to wear their correct PE kit to school - this is a plain house coloured t-shirt, black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and black trainers. Black fleece/sweatshirt for the winter.
- Please ensure that your child reads every day and do ask them about what they have read. The most important thing is that this is an enjoyable and valuable experience, which will further support your child to develop a love of reading.
- Children are given a healthy snack at morning playtime, however, if you want to send in your own, please do.
- 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.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- 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 7<sup>th</sup> February: Reading & Phonics Stay & Play first 20 minutes after drop-off
- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February: Half term – school closed
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February: Children return to school
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February: Parent Consultations times TBC
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February: Early Reading & Phonics Parent Coffee Morning @ CL 9.10am
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March: Saffron Class Assembly
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March: World Book Day
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March: Tangerine Class Assembly
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Easter Procession
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April: Easter holiday – school closed
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April: 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 Smith and Miss Harris**  
**Year 1 Team**