



Spring 2024 Newsletter

Topaz and Turquoise Classes

Welcome back and Happy New Year! Thank you so much for all the lovely Christmas cards and gifts that we received. We are looking forward to a busy and exciting spring term with lots of fascinating learning opportunities. We believe that parents and teachers work best in partnership, so please come and talk to us about what your child is learning and how you might like to be involved.

Curriculum

Our spring term is short but full! Please see the Topic Map for information on this term's curriculum and please come and ask if you have any questions.

Homework

Homework is given on Wednesdays and due back on Mondays. We give the children paper copies of the homework and also put it on J2E.

Spelling Shed is a big part of the homework and children need to log on using the details in their homework books. Please do let us know if your child is not able to access the internet.

Please remember to use your **Times Table Rock Stars** account or other websites such as Hit the Button to focus on fluency skills (please email the office if you cannot find your login).

Please ensure that your child reads every day and do listen to them and 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.

Please talk to your child about our **Reading Challenge** and which books they have read so far.

Specialist Teachers

Your child's specialist music, French and PE sessions will happen every Wednesday. Children are 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.

Year 5 will have their second block of specialist Art sessions every Friday afternoon in the first half of the spring term.

Trips

This term we are going to be visiting The Science Museum as part of our Living Things and Their Habitats unit. More information on this to follow.

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: 8.35am

START OF THE DAY: 8.45am

END OF THE DAY: 3.15pm

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.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- 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](#).

Mobile Phones

- If your child needs a mobile phone, please ensure that it is clearly labelled, switched off before they enter the school premises and handed in to the teacher for safekeeping during the day.

Key Dates

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

- Wednesday 7th February: Reading & Phonics Stay & Play first 20 minutes after drop-off
- Monday 12th to Friday 16th February: Half term – school closed
- Monday 19th February: Children return to school
- Tuesday 27th & Wednesday 28th February: Parent Consultations times TBC
- Monday 4th March: Science Museum Trip 'Living Things and their Habitats'
- Thursday 7th March: World Book Day
- Wednesday 27th March: Easter Procession
- Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April: Easter holiday – school closed
- Monday 15th 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 before or after school, or make an appointment via the School Office.

Mrs Frohock & Miss Seyit – Year 5 Team