



Summer 2024 Newsletter

Nursery

Welcome Back

Dear Nursery Parents and Carers,

We hope you all have had a restful and fun-filled Easter holiday and are looking forward to the summer term. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new families to St Mary's.

We have an incredibly fun term of learning planned for the children which will begin with a unit exploring colours. We will start by learning about primary colours and through lots of fun hands-on investigation we will learn more about how these can be mixed to create secondary and tertiary colours. We will be looking at a range of artists throughout the term, including Andy Goldsworthy, Yayoi Kusama, Alma Thomas, Howardena Pindell and Henri Matisse. We will take inspiration from their work to make our own creations - this will also naturally lead on to lots of lovely shape exploration.

Our focus books include the fantastic *Mix It Up!* by Herve Tullet, *Wow Said the Owl* by Tim Hopgood and *Luna Loves Art* by Joseph Coelho. We will also be learning lots of songs and rhymes about colour. Listen closely to your children to hear colourful twists on many of our favourites, including *If You're Happy and You Know It* and the *Hokey Cokey*.

We will also be undertaking the Sunflower Challenge, in which we aim to become sunflower experts. This will link to much of our maths learning throughout the term as we explore the composition of number, explore shape and solve real world maths problems. If you have any pictures, or anything else sunflower related, then we would love for you to send this in for the children to see.

Our children love exploring the world around us and we will continue all of our work on life-cycles, following their interests and will be busy planting up and caring for our fruit and vegetable in our allotment area. Midway through the first half term, we will also lead a mini unit focusing on ducks, as we watch the ducklings hatching in our Reception classes. This is always a highlight of the year!

This term, we are very fortunate to have our art teacher Tabitha, who will come in on Wednesday mornings to do some fantastic pieces of art with the children.

Phonics

Within phonics we will be looking at alliteration and poetry. We will then move on to blending and segmenting words. Please practise sounds your children hear within words.

Religious Education

Alongside our work on our school values, we will be learning some Bible stories this term, starting with Noah's Ark and then the story of Joseph and his brothers. In summer 2, we will be learning more about Jewish culture and practices.

In PSHE, we will begin the summer term thinking about relationships before moving on to work on the transition to next year.

Key Dates

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

- Friday 17th May: Class Photos
- Tuesday 21st May: When I Grow Up Day
- Tuesday 21st May: International Evening RG 5.30pm
- Thursday 23rd May: CL Cake Sale 3.30pm
- Monday 27th to Friday 31st May: Half term – school closed
- Monday 3rd June: INSET Day – school closed to children
- Tuesday 4th June: Children return to school
- Thursday 27th June: Nursery Assembly 9.10am
- Saturday 29th June: Summer Fair @ CL 12-3pm

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

Home Learning

Please support your child's learning at home by reading with them daily and discussing stories, and/or TV shows with them. If possible, give them jobs to do around the house such as sorting socks, tidying toys and laying the table.

Library books will be changed once a week on a Tuesday or Wednesday – please remember to send books back. If you would like any further guidance on how to support your child at home, or would like to borrow games/resources, please do not hesitate to contact us.

General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all clothes and provide a change of clothes for your child.
- 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.
- 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 (rubber) including balloons, rubber bands, latex gloves etc.
- Please keep up to date with news on our website [here](#).

We would be extremely grateful for a voluntary contribution of £5 towards our Nursery fund, this helps to pay for our cooking and gardening activities, as well as other key resources.

Please remember that more information of what we are getting up to on Nursery is available on Tapestry. Please also bring in a family picture for our family wall. The children find this a great comfort and enjoy showing the class who is in their family. If unable to print, this can be emailed to the School Office Office@stmarysn8.co.uk as we can print it from there.

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.

Louise, Sara, Chantelle & Karen
Nursery Team