



Autumn Term 2024 Newsletter

Ducklings and Goslings

Welcome to Reception

We would like to welcome everyone to St Mary's! We hope that the children will enjoy their first year of school, which will be full of exciting opportunities to develop both socially and academically.

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.

At Home

To further support your child's learning at home we encourage you to share books with your child. Children will have a new library book and two reading books sent home each week.

Specialist Teachers

Your child will be taught by specialist PE, art, music and French teachers. PE will be every Thursday. Please send your child dressed in their PE kit (plain house coloured t-shirt, black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and trainers) on this day. Black fleece/sweatshirt for the winter.

Music and French will be on Wednesdays, and art with Ms Lincoln will be on Thursdays every other half term.

Punctuality & Attendance

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

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

Trips

We are looking forward to lots of amazing trips this year. Further information will be sent out to you once trips have been booked.

General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls etc.
- The children will be doing **PE** on **Thursdays**. 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.
- Children are given a healthy snack at morning play time, however, if you want to send in your own, please do.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- Parents and children are encouraged to check book bags for letters each day.
- It would be really helpful if you could send in tissues for the class, please.
- We also ask parents for voluntary contributions of **£5** per term for consumables (to make play dough and so on).
- Please look out for an email from Tapestry (towards the end of September) in order to activate your child's learning journal.
- If you ever have any concerns or questions, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance or email the Admin Team on Office@stmarysn8.co.uk
- 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.

- Tuesday 17th September: Nursery, Reception, Y1 & Y2 Curriculum Evening 5.45pm
- Friday 20th September: Jeans for Genes Day wear something denim and bring in £1
- Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November: Half Term - school closed
- Monday 4th November: INSET Day - school closed to children
- Tuesday 5th November: children return to school
- Friday 8th November: individual photo day

*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.

Miss Abernethy & Mrs Warburton
Reception Team