



Autumn Term 2024 Newsletter

Topaz and Turquoise Classes

Welcome to Year 5

We are very happy to see the children beginning Year 5. It is a time for new beginnings, fresh challenges and exciting learning adventures. The classrooms are ready, the children are excited to meet new and old friends, and to continue with their learning. In Y5, they will thrive and flourish in the stimulating, nurturing and safe environment of St Mary's school.

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 or would like more information.

Homework

Homework is given out on **Wednesdays** and is to be returned the following **Monday**. A paper copy is sent home with the homework book and a copy is also put on J2E. Work should be recorded carefully in the books in pencil or black pen. The Spelling Shed website is used for spelling games and Times Tables Rock Stars is used to practise times tables. These will be tested on the following Friday. Please do let us know if your child does not have access to these websites at home. Reading each evening is a crucial part of the homework and we cannot underestimate the benefit of enjoying books together. We have a wide selection of books at school, please do encourage your child to bring a book home each evening. If there are any questions or difficulties, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Specialist Subjects/Swimming

Your child's specialist PE and French 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. Specialist music sessions with Mrs Peacock will be every Monday and art sessions with Ms Lincoln will continue. These will be timetabled throughout the year and will begin on Thursdays in the first half of this term. Throughout Year 5, the children will be swimming every Thursday morning at Park Road Pool. Please make sure they have their swimming trunks/costume and a swimming hat (goggles are optional) with them every week – see the letter with more details. It would be a good idea to send in a piece of fruit on this day too as swimming makes the children extra hungry!

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 489 Email: office@stmarysn8.co.uk

Trips

We are excited to go on lots of trips over the year. This term we are visiting: The Science Museum. Please look out for further details.

General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls etc. We regularly end up with bundles of unnamed uniform or sports clothes, which are piling up in the lost property container.
- The children will be doing **PE** on **Wednesdays**. 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.
- 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](#)

Mobile Phones

If your child truly 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 18th September: Y3 to Y5 Curriculum Evening 5.45pm
- Friday 20th September: Jeans for Genes Day wear something denim and bring in £1
- Monday 23rd September: Y5 Science Museum Trip
- 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 before or after school, or make an appointment via the School Office. We really look forward to working with you and your children this year.

Mrs Frohock, Mrs Vidic and Miss Fernandes
Year 5 Team