



Spring Term 2025 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

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 **Wednesday** 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 and participate in our St Mary's reading challenge. 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 continue to 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 are every Monday and art sessions with Ms Lincoln will continue in the first half of the spring term, on a Thursday.

Swimming continues every Thursday morning at Park Road Pool. Please make sure that your child has suitable swimming trunks/costume, towel and a swimming hat (goggles are optional) with them every week. It's a good idea to send in a piece of fruit or a healthy snack bar 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 that they are 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

This term we are going to be visiting Kew Gardens to support our learning about rainforests in Geography. Please look out for more information about this trip.

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.
- Children are encouraged to bring in a piece of fruit to eat during morning playtime.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- 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 (rubber) 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 (Years 5 & 6 only), 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. All mobile phones will be handed back to the children (in the playground before dismissal) at the end of the school day.

Key Dates

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

- Wednesday 5th February: PSA cake sale @ RG 3.15pm
- Tuesday 11th February: Y5 trip to Kew Gardens
- Monday 17th to Friday 21st February: Half Term - school closed
- Monday 24th February: children return to school
- Wednesday 5th March: Y5 pre-Paris meeting 8.15am
- Friday 7th March: World Book Day
- Friday 7th March: reading stay and share from drop-off both sites
- Friday 21st March: PSA RG Disco 6pm
- Saturday 5th April: PSA Easter Hunt & Craft Fair @ CL – details to follow
- Monday 7th-Monday 21st April: Easter holidays – school closed
- Tuesday 22nd 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 discuss, 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, Miss Gordon, Miss Fernandes & Mrs Vidic
Year 5 Team