



Mrs Stewart
St Valentine



Mrs Callow
St Martha

Welcome - Autumn Term 1

A huge welcome to all our Reception children who are joining us for a very exciting first year at St Mary's School! We hope that you all had a fantastic Summer and are now ready for your school journey ahead.

We have had a busy few days at school and we are so impressed at how well the children settled in. Our first project this half term will be 'Me and My World!'. We will learn all about our school environment, it's values as well as thinking about the world around us and our local environment. This will be done through practical and fun activities that are based around a story. Our big question for this half term is 'Who am I?'. We will explore our likes and dislikes as well as discussing our homes, families and people who help us in the community. We have chosen this project to help us get to know the children and one another, as well as giving them the opportunity to settle into school and our school routines.

Reading Books - Reading book change will occur on a weekly basis. Please read with your child weekly and write a comment in your child's reading log. Please ensure your child's reading book and book log is kept in their book bag each day as the children read on different days. As well as reading books provided by school, the children will take a library book to be read together and returned each week.

Coats and Wellies - As Autumn is drawing in, please ensure a named coat is brought in each day to ensure the outdoor area is explored daily. Also, your child is able to bring in a pair of named wellies to be kept in school for the year to wear on our field and to jump in muddy puddles!

Snack and Water Bottles - In Reception children can choose when they have snack throughout the day. Could we please ask that snack is in a separate container, as lunch boxes go the hall. Please also provide your child with a labelled water bottle each day.

Website - Each class has their own page which has photos of the children learning in class and trip photos etc. Please find the links below: St Valentine

- <https://stmarys.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/722/Reception%20NL>

St Martha -

<https://stmarys.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/721/Reception%20JC>

Requests - We will be making our homes out of junk modelling items. If you have anything at home that the children could use, please can you bring them into school. e.g. cereal boxes, small food packaging, pots etc. Please could we request that egg boxes are NOT brought in and no items that have contained nuts. Thank you!

*****Labels***** - Can you please make sure that ALL items of clothing and personal belongings are clearly labelled.

PE Kits - PE Kits can be left in school and will go home at the end of each half term. Please ensure all PE kits are labelled and in a separate bag.

Could you please send in 1 photo of your family to share on our display.

Dates:

Autumn Walk Nobles Park TBC

Exploring House and our environment Walk TBC.



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Communication and Language
We will be encouraging the children to listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant comments and actions when being read to in small groups.
Children will hold conversation with each other and their peers and be able to answer simple questions.
We will encourage the children to express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences which will be focussing on the past tense.
The children will use props and puppets to retell a story.



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Personal Social and Emotional
We will encourage children to begin to understand their feelings and how they can manage them. Children will be encouraged to do work towards completing simple tasks and follow simple instructions.
Children will become confident when trying new activities, They will become familiar with the school rules and routines. We will encourage the children to become more independent dressing and undressing.
Throughout the term children will be given opportunities to play together taking

Physical Development
Throughout the term the children will be developing their gross and fine motor skills. They will experiment with different ways of moving, hopping, running, skipping and jumping whilst moving safely around others. The children will explore simple dance and learn to combine simple steps and movements.
Developing their fine motor skills, the children will develop a good pencil grip and learn to handle tools, objects and construction safely with increasing control. They will learn to use simple tools e.g scissors, split pins etc whilst creating artwork.

Literacy
The children will follow our Monster Phonics programme. Children will begin to link sounds to letters and name letters of the alphabet. Children will have opportunities to mark make, and give meaning to their writing. They will learn to recognise and write their names.

Maths
This term children will begin to recognise numerals 1-5 and be able to count objects to 5. They will learn to compare two sets of object recognising which is the bigger group. There will be opportunities to explore the composition of numbers.

Expressive Arts and Design
This term the children will be following our new music scheme Charanga. They will explore two themes Me and My Stories.. Children will be given opportunities to Listen and Respond to a variety of songs and music. Then take part in musical activities. Sing and perform the songs they have learned.
During our Projects opportunities will be given to the children to use a variety of media through art, they will explore drawing, colour, texture and use different materials such as glue and sellotape to join objects together. Using their imagination they will build models.

Understanding of the World
During this term children will be exploring the Project "Me and My World" They will explore their local environment learning about different families, types of houses and how these have changed over the years, We will be using the words Past Present and future. We will explore festivals and celebrations which are important to us such as baptisms, birthdays weddings, Hop tu naa and some other cultural festivals such as Diwali. The children will become aware of the seasons and will become familiar with the changes that occur in nature during the season of Autumn.