

# RECEPTION CLASS NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to St Mary's, we hope that you and your family enjoyed a peaceful Summer break. The children have settled well into their new class and we are looking forward to our year of learning together. Your support in ensuring that your child completes their Home Learning every week will continue to help your child to make accelerated progress and reach their full potential. We look forward to seeing you at the **Reception Class Parents' Meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm.**

## Curriculum

Below is an outline of what we will be covering this term:

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| <p>Literacy</p>             | <p>In Literacy, we will be reading the traditional tales <i>The Little Red Hen</i> and <i>The Gingerbread Man</i> as our core books alongside some additional stories such as <i>Too Much</i> and <i>Room on the Broom</i>. As we develop our phonics, we will begin to write simple words, speech bubbles, lists and letters.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p>Phonics and Reading</p>  | <p>Phonics (both reading and writing words) is taught every morning. During the Autumn term, the children will be starting set 1 sounds. <b>Please ensure that you hear your child read every day and update their Reading Record. If you are able to, please join us for Reading Fridays.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Maths</p>              | <p>This half term we are focusing on comparison, counting, cardinality and composition. We will develop children's understanding of these concepts in carpet sessions. We will also be exploring shapes, space and measure.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>RE</p>                 | <p>In RE we will look at the question <i>Who am I and where do I belong?</i> And we will be learning about God's creation. In the second half of term, we will consider <i>Why Christmas is Special to Christians</i> and learn about the Christmas Story.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>Topic</p>               | <p>Our topic this half term is "Me and My World", the children will think about their family and friends, as well as the people in our school and local community who help us. The children will role play and create imaginative worlds to learn about the communities we are part of and those people who help us.</p> <p>In the second half of term we will explore festivals and celebrations where the children will learn about Bonfire Night, Diwali, Christmas and lots of other celebrations. On 4<sup>th</sup> December the children will be off to the theatre to see a performance of <i>The Gingerbread Man</i>.</p> |
| <p>Values</p>             | <p>We will be focusing on the whole school values of <b>Respect</b> and <b>Peace</b>. We will be exploring these values throughout this term and children will have the opportunity to learn how these values can be displayed, referring to examples from Bible stories and influential figures.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

## Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2026

- September – we are welcoming any donations for our annual Harvest collection, please donate any non-perishable food items (tins, jars and packets) to support those most in need
- Thu 24<sup>th</sup> September – Parents' welcome meeting with your child's class teacher at 3.00
- Tue 29<sup>th</sup> September – **SCHOOL PHOTOS**
- Wed 30<sup>th</sup> September 9AM – Harvest worship in St Mary's Church
- **Mon 19<sup>th</sup> October – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> October – HALF TERM**
- Tue 3rd November 8:45AM – Friends of St Mary's AGM and planning for the Christmas Fayre
- Thu 12<sup>th</sup> November – PARENTS EVENING
- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> November 8:45AM – Friends of St Mary's Present Wrapping
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> November 3:10PM – Christmas Fayre
- Fri 4<sup>th</sup> December – trip to Albany Theatre – the Gingerbread Man
- Thu 10<sup>th</sup> December 1:45PM – Nativity Performance for Parents and Carers
- Fri 18<sup>th</sup> December – 1:00PM – End of Autumn Term
- Tue 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - Children return to school for the Spring Term

## Key Reminders

- Please be on time at the beginning (8:40) and end (3:10) of the school day
- Please ring the school office if you have arranged for a new person to collect your child



## PE

Please note that the children must bring the correct PE kit (plain navy blue/black jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt and plain black plimsolls/trainers) to every PE lesson. Our PE coach, Mr Tientcheu, will lead the children in the PE curriculum alongside their teacher. **PE lessons will be on Wednesdays.**



## Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although plain stud earrings are acceptable.

## Clothing

Please make sure that all of your child's items of clothing are clearly labelled with their names. This applies to all items of school uniform, PE kit and coats. School shoes should be plain and black.

## Homework

Homework will be set on Friday and should be handed in on Tuesday. In addition to the homework set, your child should be reading their phonics book every day. **There is a clear expectation that every child fully completes their homework every week and we will be keeping a record of all homework completed and contacting parents where this is not the case.**

## Reading

It is vital that your child reads to you every day. Please complete their reading journal and ensure that they bring it into school **daily**. Your child will be given books, which we will aim to change on a weekly basis. If you have any concerns or would like some support with this, then please contact the school.

## Appointments

If you have any queries or wish to make an appointment, please ring the School office on 0208 6902613 or email [admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk)

We greatly value your support with your child's learning.

Ms Parkes (Class Teacher) Mrs Prendergast (Teaching Assistant) Miss Ebanks (Teaching Assistant)