

YEAR 1 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 **Year 1 Class Parents' Meeting on Wednesday 16th September at 8:45.**

Curriculum

We will continue our Maths and Literacy learning by building on the key skills that the children learned last term. Our topics this term will be **'The Great Fire of London'** and **'Beautiful Buildings'**. We will be delivering a lot of the learning in Science, History, Geography, Art and Design Technology through our topics, with links to the learning in Literacy and Maths. Below is an outline of what we will be covering in our curriculum.

English 	In English, we will be reading 'The Three Little Pigs'. The children will learn to confidently retell the story out loud. We will learn to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops to write our own simple sentences about the story. In addition, we will learn the poem 'I am a little leaper'. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to write their own short poem in this style using simple similes and capital letters for names. Each day we will also practise using our phonics sounds to help us spell words.
Phonics and Reading 	Phonics will be taught daily every morning and spellings to learn at home will be set on a weekly basis. These will be tested each week. We will be reading daily as a class. Please ensure that you hear your child read every day and update their Reading Record.
Maths 	This half term we will be focusing on place value within 10 and addition and subtraction within 10. We will be learning to recognise, represent, compare and order numbers and solve simple addition and subtraction calculations. In the second half of the term we will be learning about place value within 20, addition and subtraction within 20 and shape. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to confidently work with numbers to 20, solve simple addition and subtraction problems, and recognise and describe common 2D and 3D shapes. We will be launching our Times Table challenge before half-term, so you could begin to practise counting in steps of 2 at home.
RE 	In RE, we will be learning about why Jesus told stories and what Christians can learn from his parables, including <i>The Good Samaritan</i> and <i>The Lost Sheep</i>. We will explore how these stories teach Christians about God and how to live and treat others. Later in the term, we will learn about the Nativity, exploring the important people in the story and their roles.
Topic 	In History, we will be learning about the Great Fire of London, including how and why the fire started and what London was like in 1666. We will also compare firefighting in the past with today. We will visit the Tower of London for a special session all about the Great Fire. In Geography, we will be learning about London and our local area. We will locate England and London on a map, explore different types of maps and use digital maps to find important places, including Pudding Lane, the Monument and our local fire station. In Science, we will be learning about everyday materials and their properties, linked to <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> and <i>The Great Fire of London</i>. We will explore materials such as wood, plastic, glass, metal and rock, describe their properties and carry out simple investigations to find out which materials are best suited to different purposes. We will also observe seasonal changes, including changes in the weather and the length of the day.

	In Art, we will explore colour mixing, learning about primary and secondary colours and experimenting with different ways of applying paint. We will develop our skills through painting, printing and pattern making, using colour creatively to produce our own artwork. During our DT Day, we will be exploring how bread is made. We will compare yeasted and non-yeasted breads, investigating the role of yeast and observing how it changes dough. We will practise key food preparation skills, including measuring, mixing, kneading and shaping, before designing and making our own bread and evaluating the finished product.
Values	 We will be focusing on the whole school values of Respect and Peace. 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.
Comp Uting	 In Computing, we will be learning what technology is, identifying examples of technology around us and exploring the different parts of a computer. We will develop our mouse and keyboard skills and learn how to use technology safely and responsibly.
Music	 In Music, we will learn how voices, sounds and instruments can be used to tell a story, like The Three Little Pigs, using music to represent different characters, actions and events. We will listen carefully, experiment with different sounds and work together to create and perform our own musical storytelling.
PSHE	 We will be following the Jigsaw scheme of work in our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education). This term we will learn about belonging to our class, our rights and responsibilities, and how our choices and behaviour can affect others. We will also be introduced to the Zones of Regulation, learning to recognise and name different emotions and beginning to identify strategies that can help us manage our feelings and be ready to learn.

Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2026

- Tuesday 15th September – Trip to The Tower of London
- 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
- Wednesday 16th September 8:45 AM– Parents' welcome meeting with your child's class teacher
- Tue 29th September – **SCHOOL PHOTOS**
- Wed 30th September 9AM – Harvest worship in St Mary's Church
- **Mon 19th October – Fri 30th October – HALF TERM**
- Tue 3rd November 8:45AM – Friends of St Mary's AGM and planning for the Christmas Fayre
- Thu 12th November – PARENTS EVENING
- Fri 13th November 8:45AM – Friends of St Mary's Present Wrapping
- Fri 27th November 3:10PM – Christmas Fayre
- Fri 4th December – Pantomime at Greenwich Theatre
- Thu 10th December 1:45PM – Nativity Performance for Parents and Carers
- Fri 18th December – 1:00PM – End of Autumn Term
- Tue 5th 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 Tuesdays.**



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although plain stud earrings are acceptable. Please bear in mind that if your child is wearing earrings, they need to be able to remove them themselves for PE lessons.

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.

Home Learning

Home Learning will be set on Friday and should be completed by Tuesday. In addition to the learning set, your children should be regularly practicing their times tables, spellings and reading every day.

There is a clear expectation that every child fully completes their Home Learning every week and we will be keeping a record 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

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

Mrs Stead (Class Teacher) Ms Bennett (Teaching Assistant)