

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Autumn Term 2020

EYFS

Curriculum Letter



Dear Parents,

We are very excited to be back at school and to be back with the whole school community! Our new topic is called 'All About Me' and the children have enjoyed our first week of learning.

This topic incorporates Geography, Science, Art, DT, Music and PE as well as Literacy and Maths. We will be learning all about ourselves and our bodies – thinking about our similarities and differences, and the importance of looking after our bodies and keeping healthy. We will be investigating our different senses paying close attention to the changes that happen in our environment as we move into Autumn.

The children are settling into school life brilliantly and we are all enjoying getting to know each other.

We are all very excited for the term ahead!

Mrs Horton

PE

Children should bring outdoor PE kit including tracksuits and trainers for cold weather as we will be doing PE outside the entire term. It is vital that you label all school clothing with your child's name to avoid confusion when they change for P.E. Please could your child have a pair of plimsolls to wear each day as their indoor shoes. These will be kept in school. Children should not wear earrings during PE lessons. Our PE lesson will be on a ~~Friday morning~~. We will send your child's kit home each Friday and it can be sent in again after washing.

Homework Expectations

As we begin to introduce sounds through our Phonics sessions the children will bring home a 'Sounds book' with the sounds learnt that week in. This will give you and your child the opportunity to practise saying and recognising the sounds, and there is space for practising handwriting too. It is important that these books are sent into school on a Monday so that the sounds can be updated and sent home again on a Thursday.

More information will follow as these books are sent home over the coming weeks.

Reading

At St Mary's we have a new reading scheme call Rising Stars Reading Planet, which includes a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. The books are banded according to level of difficulty in terms of decoding words and understanding of the text into different colour bands. There is progression through each colour of the book band system, with books becoming increasingly more difficult throughout each of the bands. Each child will be heard to read in school once a week as part of a Guided Reading Session. They will receive a new book every Thursday and should return their book on the following Monday. For your reading book the first night you can use the before reading activities on the inside cover of the book and read for decoding. Use the next night to reread the book and ask questions on the back page about what they have read. The third night can be used to increase fluency and complete after reading tasks. It is essential to ask your child questions about what they have read, it could be about the story or the meaning of a word. This helps to develop more able and confident readers. Children always enjoy being read to even when they can read fluently for themselves, so do use your home or local library to have books for shared reading where you are creating a love of reading with them. Reading