



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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At St Mary's we live and learn sharing God's

15th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome

From myself and the KS1 team, I would like to wish you all a warm welcome back to school and hope you have had a lovely summer break. We are looking forward to working with you and your child this year. This letter will give you some information about the organisation and day to day running of the KS1 department as well as an overview of what we have planned for this term.

Welcome Meeting

Next Tuesday, we will be holding a welcome meeting at 2:30pm in school. At the meeting we will share with you an overview of the KS1 curriculum, as well as key information about day-to-day life in KS1. It would be lovely if you could attend.

Class Organisation

There are two classes in KS1 this year, organised as follows:

St Gabriel (Year 1/2) - Miss Francis (Class Teacher) & Mrs Knight (Teaching Assistant)

St Joseph (Year 1/2) - Miss Moriarty (Class Teacher) & Mrs Howard (Teaching Assistant)

The classes will also have some sessions led by Mrs Fox and Mr Bowman. In addition, we are fortunate that we also have Mrs Davies, Mrs Hodges, Mrs Woodward and Miss Hutchinson working within the department for our Read Write Inc sessions.

The Curriculum

Please refer to the Curriculum Map which will be sent out on Class Dojo.

PE

The children will continue coming into school in their PE kit on their PE day.

Our school PE kit is as follows:

Headteacher: Mrs. Louise O'Mahony



- blue, black or dark grey jogging pants/leggings/shorts
- plain white t-shirt
- blue, black or dark grey hoodie/sweatshirt (weather dependent)
- pumps for indoor PE, trainers for outdoors

Please do ensure that your child wears the correct PE uniform. Towards the end of last year some children wore items of clothing that were not in line with the above.

This term the PE days are as follows:

Miss Francis' Class - every Tuesday

Miss Moriarty's Class - every Wednesday

Homework

Homework grid

The termly homework grid has been sent home on Class Dojo today. We ask that children complete one piece of work each week and submit this on Class Dojo. Dojo points will be awarded for all homework completed.

Maths homework

Starting next week, there will also be a piece of 'Mathletics' homework set each week. This will be linked directly to the Maths lessons taught during the week. Again, the children will receive Dojo points for work completed and children will work towards achieving their bronze, silver, gold and platinum certificates. Login details will be sent home next week.

Reading

We cannot stress enough the importance of reading at home and ask that children read each day where possible. Each child will receive 3 reading books each Thursday. The book packs are organised as follows:

Book 1 is a paper copy of the decodable book they have been reading in their reading lessons. Your child should be able to read this to you independently, using their reading skills learnt at school. Please DO NOT let them write their name on the front of the book, it is a school copy and needs to be returned.

Book 2 is a story or non-fiction book matched closely to the sounds they have been learning in phonics. This will be the first time they have read this book although they should be able to decode independently.

Book 3 is a reading book for pleasure; this book may be tricky to read but we hope you enjoy and read it together as a family.

*Please note that the book pack arrangements are slightly different for Mrs Knight's Read Write Inc group. Mrs Knight will be in touch with you directly via Class Dojo to explain if this applies to your child.

All children will also have a home reading record. Please ensure that you record the name of the book and the dates on which the book was read in their Reading Record. The aim is that each child does a minimum of four reads each week. Please send book bags in daily for us to monitor each day and read with the children in class.

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Book bags will be changed every Thursday, so it is essential that children bring their book bags in every Thursday. Please ensure that the books are kept in the book bag provided as this will protect the books from damage. Any lost books or books that continuously fail to be returned will incur a charge.

Rewards

In school we use Class Dojo to recognise and celebrate individual success and good behaviour. This platform is also a great way for your child's class teacher to keep you informed and for you to keep in touch with their teacher.

Our weekly 'Reward Assembly' is held in school each Friday morning. A certificate will awarded in each class for Mary's Missionaries (Catholic life award) and a Star of the Week. Parents of certificate winners will be invited to join us for the assembly so that you can share in your child's celebration.

Water

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school each day. We ask that these are labelled with your child's name.

Fruit

Fruit is provided for all children in KS1 and this will be enjoyed during our morning break.

Labels

Please ensure that jumpers, coats and other items of clothing are labelled. This makes it much easier to return items to their correct owner.

Parent helpers

Finally, we would love to develop further links with our families. If you would like to volunteer in school, (e.g. listening to readers, helping on trips etc) please get in touch.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting next Tuesday. In the meantime, if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to speak with you.

Kind regards

Mrs Sayers, Miss Francis and Miss Moriarty
KS1 Team

Headteacher: Mrs. Louise O'Mahony

