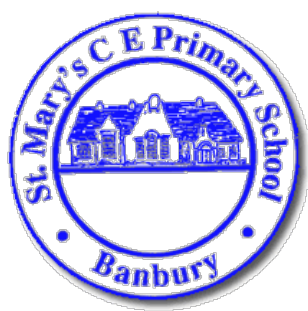




St Mary's C E Primary School
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Web: www.banburystmarysschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Woods

Autumn 1 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing summer and spent some quality time as a family. It has been such a joy to see the children return to Year 2 full of energy and enthusiasm to learn. We have lots of exciting activities and projects planned for the Year 2s this term and I can't wait to see all the amazing things that they will achieve this year!

Curriculum – All Aboard



This term our Year 2 topic is **All Aboard**. The children will explore how transport has changed over time, with a special trip to The British Motor Museum, where children will get to see first-hand how vehicles have changed throughout history. In English, children will be exploring the book *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt De La Peña and enjoy CJ's bus trip through town. The children will then step into the role of poets and write their own poem about a special bus. In Maths, children will be recognising place value of numbers up to 100 and counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10. In DT children will be

Please see the attached cog document for further information and details about each subject area.

Class rewards

Our first reward we will be working towards is 15 minutes extra OPAL play

Children will be praised for demonstrating our vision in action and working hard on their learning journey with stars in the jar and house points. I can't wait to celebrate Robin's successes with them.

Reading

Reading ignites imagination, builds vocabulary, and directly boosts academic progress across every subject. To support your child's learning, we ask that they read at home at least four times a week for 10–15 minutes per session. Listening to your child read aloud as often as possible makes a huge difference, so please encourage them to log their reading in their reading record. Each night, children will bring home a stage-appropriate book, a self-chosen "reading for pleasure" book, and their reading record. Please ensure their reading record is returned to school every single day!

Homework

Our homework enables all pupils to make sure they have chance to practise and recall things like spellings and their times tables, to read regularly and also complete a weekly piece linked to our project. Over the half term the work the children complete can then be combined into a final project piece. I can't wait to see what the children create and bring in to share with the class. Our homework books will be sent home every Thursday and should be returned to school on the following Tuesday.

Learning, Transforming, Growing.

PE Kit

All children should have indoor and outdoor kit e.g. shorts, house coloured t-shirt and plimsolls for indoors and trainers for outdoor sessions. **PE kits should be brought into school every Monday and taken home on a Friday to be washed for the following week.**

Please note pupils are not permitted to take part in PE lessons whilst wearing earrings (unless they have been pierced within the last six weeks in which case they are permitted to tape them up until six weeks has passed.) **Staff are not permitted to assist pupils with the removal or insertion of earrings.**

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

It is important that the children have outdoor learning clothing in school every day to ensure children can play outside throughout the year. This includes waterproof clothing and a pair of wellies. Please name your child's clothing as it can be hard to reunite lost clothing and equipment to the right child if it is not named.

Birthday books

To support your child's dental hygiene we ask that you do **not** bring in sweet treats on your child's birthday. Instead, if you would like to, you are welcome to donate a book to the class. This could be a picture book, information book, a collection of poems or a loved story.

Reminders

- **Water Bottles** – please make sure children have a water bottle with them every day (separate from any drink in their lunch box) as this allows them to access water as and when they require it. To improve the oral health of children, only water is permitted in class. If your child brings in a bottle filled with something other than water, we will provide them with a cup so that they can access water during the day.
- **Snacks** – Children may bring in a **healthy snack** for mid-morning break. Suitable choices include fruit, cheese, yogurt and vegetable sticks. Do let us know if your child has any food allergies or intolerances.
- **Absence and sickness** – please let the office know if your child is not attending because they are ill. Also please note that Health Protection Agency guidance states that children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode of either sickness or diarrhea.

Contact

Should you need to contact me about any matters arising, you may email direct using the following address:

r.townson@banburystmarysschool.co.uk

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as I may be busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In all cases I will endeavour to reply to you within 2 working days. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child then you should contact the school office.

I look forward to continuing to working with and helping your children achieve our vision; Learning, Transforming and Growing.

Kind Regards,

Rebecca Townson

Learning, Transforming, Growing.