



St Mary's C E Primary School
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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Victoria Woods

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our final summer term at St Mary's! We are very excited about our learning this term and have lots of fun and engaging learning opportunities over the next 7 weeks leading up to the summer holidays!

Class Reminders

- **Water Bottles** – it is getting warmer out, so 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.
- **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.
- **Shoes** – All school shoes should be black and children should be able to independently take off and put on their school shoes.
- **Spare clothes** – All children should have a bag of spare clothes which can be kept on their peg. This should include underwear, socks, tights if appropriate, trousers or skirt and a jumper. We will change their clothes if they have become excessively wet or muddy during outdoor learning or if they have a toileting accident. If your child is sent home wearing spare school clothes, please wash and return these to school as soon as possible.
- **Naming items** - Please make sure everything you send to school is named. This includes all uniforms, hats, shoes, gloves, water bottles, rucksacks and scarves. Please check these items are still named every week as handwritten names can wear off and labels can fall off.
- **Own Toys** - Please don't bring in toys from home for children to play with as they may get lost or damaged.
- **Sweets** - Healthy snacks are provided each morning for all children so there is no need to provide personal snacks while they are here. Sweets are also not allowed to be eaten by children at school so please don't provide these as they will be returned back to you at the end of the day.
- **PE Kits** - Reception must have their PE kits in school ready to do PE on a Monday and Thursday.

We will then begin our new project 'Castles, knights, and dragons' where children will use their imagination to enter the magical world of queens and kings. We will kick off the term by having our **WOW Day** our second week back. On Monday 8th June, children are invited to come to school dressed as kings and queens, spending the day as royalty.

Curriculum – 'Castles, knights and dragons...'

Learning, Transforming, Growing.

This term, children will continue to build on their storytelling skills developed last term. Through our learning, the children will explore significant figures from British history, including Queen Elizabeth and King Charles, helping them to develop an understanding of the past and how it shapes the world around us today.

Our key texts this term are *The Knight and the Dragon* by Tomie DePaola and *Dragon Post* by Emma Yarlett. These exciting stories link closely to our topic on castles, knights and dragons, and will inspire the children's imagination and creativity. Fledglings will use our texts, thinking carefully about how to care for a dragon.

For further information and details about our learning this term, please read our COG document which is also available on our class page on the website.

PE

We will continue to hold our PE sessions on Monday and Thursday afternoons, where the children will be focusing on activities involving rackets, bats, balls and balloons. Reception children will develop their coordination and control through activities such as keeping a balloon in the air and exploring different ways to balance a variety of objects on rackets and bats.

Throughout the term, the children will also build their understanding of games and teamwork. They will practise important skills such as taking turns, following rules, keeping score and working cooperatively with others. These activities will help to develop their confidence, resilience and physical skills, while encouraging them to enjoy being active and participating positively in group games

All children in reception need to have an indoor and outdoor PE kit e.g. shorts, house coloured t-shirt and plimsolls for indoors and trainers for outdoor sessions. We will have PE lessons outside so please can children have appropriate, PE clothes for these 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.** If pupils are not able to manage earrings independently, they should not wear them to school on days when PE is timetabled to take place but remove them, with assistance, at home.

Reading

We have continued to see lots of progress in your child's reading during the summer term as they prepare for year one, and we thank those families who have continued to read at home. All children will continue to come home with either sound sheets, sound blending books, photocopy ditty's, reading books and QR codes to access online sessions. We recommend that children read at home a minimum of 4 times a week.

Please record your child's reading activity in their reading record and make sure their whole reading folder comes into school every day. We check reading records every morning and reward children who have read each day with house points.

Homework – Reception Children

We will continue to give our homework tasks in homework books. There will be a selection of activities linked to our project learning and reading.

Homework is usually given out on a Thursday with the expectation it is brought back on a Tuesday. Children are rewarded for fantastic homework with gold star stickers/stamps in their homework books, which means they can put a star in the jar towards our class reward.

Class rewards

Fledglings have voted to choose their stars in the jar rewards for this term;

First reward	Second reward	Third reward	Fourth reward
Field Time	Movie Time	Teddy Bear Picnic with Biscuits	Water Play Outside

Children will be praised for demonstrating our vision in action and working hard on their learning journey.

House points reward

Children are rewarded points for showing our school values and going above and beyond within our school community. The house points are collected every Friday, totalled up by our house captains and announced in celebration worship. One house is rewarded an extra special treat for earning the most points over the course of the whole term. We will inform you nearer the end of the term which house has won and what day their treat will take place. Good luck to each house.

Let's reuse and recycle!

Clothes – our stock of spare clothes is very low, especially underwear and socks. Please can we remind you that if your child comes home in spare clothes that these are returned. If you have any old clothes at home which could include old uniform or normal clothes, we would very much appreciate any donations.

This term, we are exploring the exciting world of kings, queens, dragons and castles! We are always very grateful for any donations of dressing-up clothes or role-play resources linked to our topic, as these help to enrich the children's learning experiences and inspire their creativity and imagination.

Contact

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

r.perkins@banburystmarysschool.co.uk

p.fleming@banburystmarysschool.co.uk

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as we may be busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In all cases, we 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.

Kind Regards,

Rachel Perkins (Monday - Friday) and Paige Fleming (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)