

Class teachers: Miss Duignan, Mrs Castle & Mrs Parsons

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Welcome On behalf of all the staff at St. Mary's Primary School, we would like to say a huge 'Welcome' to you and your child as they begin their learning journey with us.

Working with parents is so important to us and we would love you to send us photos of things that your child is doing at home.

We are starting off the year with the theme of 'Just Like Me' then moving onto 'Into the woods (Light and Dark)' after half-term.

Mrs Parsons and Mrs Castle (1 to 1) are our teaching assistants and will be supporting the children in their learning and Mr Hollisey-McLean will be in our classroom as well once a week for PPA.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- This is so important as your child settles into school, makes new friends, learns how to play cooperatively and turn take.

- we will focus on building relationships and learning routines

- we will be exploring feelings and how to manage them.

Communication and Language

- focus on developing each child's confidence in using language. There will be a lot of opportunities to express themselves, extend their vocabulary and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

Physical Development

Gross motor - jumping, running, climbing, throwing and catching..... so many opportunities in our outside areas! Including our range of bikes and scooters that all come out for Bike Day.

Fine motor - funky fingers to develop muscles for writing as well as many other activities to develop the pincer grip.

Literacy - listening to and learning well-known stories, poems and songs. We will also be learning to read and write our names.

Phonics - we follow our own school scheme and will share more information on this with you soon so that you are able to support your child. Letter formation is incorporated into our phonics lessons. Watch out for our weekly newsletters and videos to help you support your child's learning.

Reading - Your child will bring home picture books to share with you. Please read every night before bed as this is a perfect opportunity to develop your child as a learner and reader! We will be sharing picture books in school and developing a 'love of reading'. Big Cat readers will start to come home during this term, please support your child daily to apply their phonic knowledge to read these.

Writing - we will be modelling writing for different purposes across all areas of provision; shopping lists in the home corner, making plans in the construction area, signs around the classroom and recording the children's ideas. The children will be encouraged to join in alongside us. Look out for information on 'Drawing Club', this approach really inspires the children to mark make and sparks their imagination as a writer.

Thailand Foundation Stage Newsletter

 Autumn 2026 

Mathematical Development



- counting to 10 and beyond, composition of numbers to 5, representing numbers; fingers, pictures, objects

We will be using Numberblocks, numicon and other concrete materials to develop our sense of number as well as using lots of natural materials to count, organise and group to help with our counting. We will be singing lots of number rhymes as well and developing our subitising skills to recognise small groups of objects.

Expressive Arts and Design

- exploring paint, clay, playdough, joining methods, colour mixing, songs, rhythm and pulse.

Every week there will be a range of explorative activities and a chance for your child to show how creative they are and to use their imagination.

Reception Baseline Assessment: Parent Information

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents>

Important Dates

Forest School will run from Wednesday 9th September to Wednesday 21st October

PE will be on Tuesday starting soon.

September Dates

Friday 18th - Nasal Flu Spray

Friday 25th Harvest Eucharist - please send your child with a gift for our Harvest Festival collection.

Wednesday 30th - Meet the Teacher at 3.30pm

October Dates

Saturday 4th - Church fete at St. Mary's Church

Wednesday 7th - 9am 'Six weeks in' meeting

Friday 9th - World Mental Health Day

Friday 16th - individual school photos

Friday 23rd - INSET DAY

November Dates

Tuesday 3rd - Parents' evening (in school) 3.30-6pm

Thursday 5th - Parents' evening (in school) 3.30-6pm

Friday 6th - PTA fireworks

Wednesday 11th - Remembrance Day

Friday 13th - Children in Need

Monday 16th - Odd socks for Mental Health

Friday 27th - Christingles and Advent Eucharist

Friday 24th October - Finish school for half term

Monday 3rd November - INSET

December Dates

Tuesday 15th - Nativity 2pm and 5pm

Wednesday 16th - School Disco

Thursday 17th Panto

Friday 18th - Last Day of Term - Christmas Eucharist, Christmas Jumpers and Class Party.

Understanding the World

- finding out about ourselves, our bodies, our senses, how we grow and change, ways to keep healthy and safe, and people who help us in our school and wider community.

- Finding out about our Christian Values; starting with 'LOVE'. Then 'Perseverance, Hope, Courage' after half-term.

- Exploring 'Why is the word God so important to Christians?' Followed by 'Why do Christians perform Nativity plays at Christmas?' (INCARNATION)

- We will also be finding out about other festivals such as - Harvest Festival (October), Diwali (November), Remembrance Day (November).

Forest School

Please wear OLD clothes, arms and legs must be fully covered. Waterproofs, welly boots. Layers for warmth. The children will be outside for most of the day.

First Session: to follow.



A chance to learn outside, develop their social skills, learn to mark-make and develop their fine and gross motor skills as well as learning about the world around them.

TBC - walk to visit to Village Library

PARENTS HELPING: We would welcome parents to come and help with reading, Forest School, gardening, village walks, trips etc - please come and talk to me about helping.



Google Classroom and Emails -

Communication is important to us - please do speak to us on the playground, contact us via the office or send us an email if you have a worry. We will also be sharing pictures and comments to show what your child has been up to!

General Reminders - If someone else is collecting your child then please let the office know.

We are a NUT-FREE school



Book Bags - Please bring these in everyday, Reading Logs will be checked daily and we want to work with your child as much as possible,

Water Bottle - Please bring in daily and ensure it is named.

Always ensure your child has named waterproofs and wellies in school - we will be outside every day no matter what the weather.

THINK WEATHER! hats, gloves, sunhats, sunscreen?

Please make sure everything is NAMED.