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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.

Mrs Logan-Campbell is our teaching assistant and will be supporting the children in their learning and Miss Dunstall will be in our classroom as well once a week.

### 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.
- focus on building relationships and learning routines
- 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 Friday.

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 - Explore some of the sharing books at home with your child. 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'.

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.

Some of our Key Texts are; The Colour Monster; Once there were Giants; Weirdo; Lost and Found.

## Foundation Stage Newsletter Autumn 2023

### Mathematical Development



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

We will be using 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 to develop your sense of one more and one less.

### Expressive Arts and Design

- exploring paint, clay, playdough, joining methods, colour mixing, songs, rhythm and pulse. Lots of activities will link to the theme of 'Funny Faces and Fabulous Features'.

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://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1182374/2023\\_Information\\_for\\_parents\\_reception\\_baseline\\_assessment\\_WEBHO.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1182374/2023_Information_for_parents_reception_baseline_assessment_WEBHO.pdf)

### Understanding the World

- Finding out about our Christian Values; starting with LOVE.

- Exploring 'Me and My Community'. Your child will learn about the school community and building friendships. They will explore the school grounds and find out about all the people in school who are there to help them. They will further explore how they are special and unique and how everyone's family is different. They will take part in practical activities to support them to build new friendships and explore what makes a good friend. They will also find out about people in the community who help us, including doctors, nurses, and the emergency services.

- Throughout the year we will be observing and comparing seasonal changes in our local environment.

### 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: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November



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.

### Important Dates

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September - Non uniform day for Harvest Fair (please contribute chocolate or a bottle)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Harvest Eucharist - please send your child with a gift for our Harvest Festival.

2pm - Welcome 'Tea and Chat' for EYFS

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September - Village Event: Harvest Fair

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September - Individual school photos - clean uniform, please

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October - Meet the Teacher at 3.30pm

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 9am 'Six weeks in' meeting

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October - INSET day (Half-Term 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October)

TBC - Phonics Information Session

TBC - walk around the village and visit to the library (helpers will be needed)

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Production 2pm and 5pm.

**PARENTS HELPING:** We would welcome parents to come and help with reading, forest schools, gardening, village walks, trips etc - please contact the office to book a DBS. Then let me know when you can come in.

### CLASS DOJO -



Communication is important to us - please do use the message feature to contact us or send us an email if you have a worry. We will 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 regularly 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 a NAMED waterproof coat - we will be outside every day no matter what the weather.

THINK WEATHER! hats, gloves, or sunhats, sunscreen?

Please make sure everything is NAMED.