

Reception Spring Term Newsletter 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome back to a new term in Reception! It has been wonderful to see the children settle back into school life with such enthusiasm. They are all trying so hard, and we are so proud of their efforts.

This term, we are focusing on extending our learning—building on the great progress already made and encouraging even more curiosity, independence, and confidence. We look forward to working together to support your children as they continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Literacy

In Literacy this term our themes are 'Traditional Tales' and 'Growing'. We will be looking at the following key texts to inform our activities.

- The Three Little Pigs
- The Three Billy Goats gruff
- Goldilocks and the three Bears
- Jack and the Beanstalk
- Errol's Garden
- The Hungry Caterpillar
- The Odd Egg
- The Easter Story



Maths

In Maths we are following the White Rose scheme and below will be our topics this term through a variety of different hands-on activities.

- Mass and capacity
- Representing numbers 1-10
- Length, height and time
- Building a deeper understanding of numbers to 10
- Exploring part, part whole methods
- Exploring 3D shapes
- Composition of numbers to 10



Phonics

This term we have two phonics groups. One group will be consolidating their understanding of **phase 2** sounds before moving onto **phase 3**. Our second groups will be looking at **phase 3** and learning to read longer words and words with double letters such as ladder, ribbon and lemon.

Children are being introduced to writing **sentences** and using their own knowledge to **segment** words and attempt to spell them using a sound mat.

Both groups are focussing on learning their **tricky words**.

RE

In RE children will be learning Branches 3 and 4 and will be listening to the following stories about Jesus.

Branch 3 Galilee to Jerusalem

The visit of the Magi (Matt 2:1-12)

Jesus blesses the little children (Mk 10:13-16)

Feeding the 5000 (Jn 6:1-14)

Jesus was born for everyone.

Branch 4 Dessert to Garden

A simplified version of key events of Holy Week especially Good Friday and Easter Sunday (to enable pupils to recognise key events).

The great commandment (Lk 10:25-28).

Caring for others in Lent.

Jesus died on a cross.

Jesus rose and we celebrate.

PE

This term children will be focussing on the following skills.

-Gymnastics & Movements to Music

-Ball Skills / Team Games

In addition to these skills, children are also taught how to play alongside others in a team, solving problems and negotiating roles.

Other areas of development

This term, we are excited to explore the wonderful world of animals and their habitats, learning about where they live and how they survive. We will also be using interactive maps to investigate our local area, making connections between what we see and where we live. In science, we'll be observing the amazing changes that happen as plants grow and exploring how the seasons affect the world around us. Alongside this, we will be reflecting on our own behaviours, thinking about how our choices impact ourselves and others. It's going to be a fantastic term of discovery and learning!

**Important dates**

PE every Thursday. Cooking on Fridays, donations welcomed.

Our School Behaviour Policy

St. Mary's is committed to fostering calm, constructive, and positive learning environments across the school. Below is a reminder of our school-wide behaviour policy.

St. Mary's Values- these are the values that underpin all areas of our school community:

Kindness
Respect
Tolerance

Honesty
Responsibility
Cooperation

The School Values are based on the Gospel of Matthew 7:12

'Treat others like you want them to treat you'

What happens if Class expectations are not followed?

If a child chooses to display negative behaviour, these steps will be taken:

First time a pupil breaks a rule... Reminder (attention drawn to rule)

Second time a pupil breaks a rule... Verbal Warning

Third time a pupil breaks a rule... Second verbal warning

Expected Behaviour (Green)	Rewards (Green)	
Respectful	Verbal Praise Dojo Point House Points Golden Tickets Star of the week Star of the Term	Fourth time a pupil breaks a rule... Third verbal warning: Yellow Zone and consequence.
Tolerant		Fifth time a pupil breaks a rule... Fourth verbal warning.
Kind		Sixth time a pupil breaks a rule... Fifth verbal warning: Orange Zone and consequence(s).
Cooperating		Seventh time a pupil breaks a rule... Sixth verbal warning.
Responsible		Eighth time a pupil breaks a rule... Seventh verbal warning: Red Zone and consequence(s).
Honest		