

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Termly Newsletter Summer 2026



We were so pleased to welcome the children back to school and see their happy, smiling faces: they have returned full of energy and enthusiasm, ready for a new half term of learning and discovery. We are excited for all the wonderful activities and experiences we have planned in our new curriculum topics.

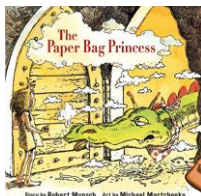
As we move towards the Phonics Screening Check early next half term, phonics will continue to be a very important focus in our learning. Regular practice at school and at home makes a huge difference, so thank you for your continued support in helping your child grow in confidence with their reading.

Looking forward to all that's to come.

Miss Flashman

English

In English this term we are reading the picture book *The Rainbow Fish*. The children are already buzzing about this story and the special deeper meaning. Later in the term we will move onto *The Paper Bag Princess*, targeting character description and letter writing skills.



Maths

In Year 1 for Maths over the Spring term, we will be covering:

- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions
- Measurement
- Position and Direction
- Place Value (within 100)
- Money
- Time



Science



Plants

In Science, we will be learning about plants. The children will explore what plants are, identify the basic parts of flowering plants and trees, and begin to recognise common garden plants. They will also look at different types of seeds and their characteristics.

Seasonal Change - Summer

We will also be learning about seasonal changes, focusing on summer. The children will explore the signs of summer, observe changes in weather and daylight, and look at how plants and animals are affected during this season.

<p>RE This term we will be covering the following topics:</p> <p>To the Ends of the Earth: in this branch of the curriculum we study the events after Jesus' resurrection, including the Ascension, Pentecost and the conversion of Saul. We will also look at the Holy Spirit and the Holy Trinity.</p> <p>Dialogue and Encounter: In Dialogue we learn about what the church teaches about the relationship between Catholicism and other religions. In Encounter we will study a specific religion.</p>	<p>Geography (Summer 1)</p> <p>Seas and Coasts In Geography, we will be learning about seas and coasts. The children will explore the world's oceans and continents, find out about British beaches and seas, and compare them with coastal areas in other countries. They will also develop their map skills by using compass directions and carry out simple geographical enquiries to learn more about different places.</p>	<p>History (Summer 2)</p> <p>Why were Castles Built? The children will explore when and where castles were built and the reasons behind their construction. They will learn about the features of castles and what life was like inside them, including a closer look at the Tower of London. The children will also begin to understand the role of monarchs, past and present.</p>
<p>PE - Gymnastics & Dance <i>The children will be developing:</i></p> <p>Creativity - Creating games: the children will select and use equipment and develop ideas by working together. In Athletics the children will learn travelling, throwing and jumping techniques.</p>	<p>Music <i>The two topics this term are:</i></p> <p>Singing and Playing Skills 2: Follow the Leader and Visual symbols (crescendo, decrescendo, pause)</p> <p>Playing Rhythm and Pitch: Tuned and untuned Percussion</p>	<p>Computing <i>In computing Year 1 will be exploring the following topics:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Programming ● E-safety ● Online safety
<p>Spanish</p> <p>The Four Friends In this unit, children listen and respond to the story <i>Los Cuatro Amigos</i>, learning to talk about animals while describing their colours and movements. They expand their vocabulary by adding new verbs and build confidence using simple language for classroom interaction. Through engaging with the story, they develop language skills and vocabulary, with opportunities to participate through mimes and storytelling, culminating in a final performance.</p> <p>Growing Things In this unit, children learn the names of vegetables grown in a garden and how to express their likes and dislikes. They explore the life cycle of a plant in Spanish and engage with the story of <i>Jack and the Beanstalk</i>, using it to further develop their language skills. Building on previous learning, they expand their vocabulary, particularly nouns, and gain confidence working with simple stories.</p>		

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'

Expected Behaviour (Green)	Rewards (Green)
Respectful	Verbal Praise Dojo Point House Points Golden Tickets Star of the week Star of the Term
Tolerant	
Kind	
Cooperating	
Responsible	
Honest	

Repetition of minor incidents Disobedience/disrespect Hurting Others Swearing / Insults Dangerous behaviour Damaging school property Physical contact with another child (low level- pushing, barging past) Disregard of school rules	Restorative Justice- make amends Recorded on CPOMs Parents notified by Class Teacher/SLT Lunchtime Reflection Time
Repetition of minor incidents Racist behaviour Inappropriate spoken, written, or digital forms of communicating Threatening or abusive Behaviour or Language Physical violence resulting in injury Bullying	Parents notified by Behaviour Lead /Senior Leadership Team Recorded on CPOMs Internal Exclusion determined by a member of the Senior Leadership Team - number of days reflects the severity of the incident. Two Internal Exclusions in a period of half a term will result in a third being held at our partner school St. Charles.
Exiting school without permission Stealing Serious damage to school property Continuation of behaviour on return from an exclusion	Fixed Term Exclusion – dependent on severity of incident Permanent Exclusion - dependent on severity of incident. (This decision is at the discretion of the Executive HeadTeacher).