



**Term:** Autumn 2 2021  
**Year Group:** Nursery

### Information For Parents

Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back to school after the half term break. We do hope the children are feeling rested and refreshed and ready for the busy half term ahead, which is already packed full of events, including Remembrance Day services, Parent/Teacher Consultations (via School Cloud), Year 5 school journey to Gilwell Park, Year 6 School Journey to Sayers Croft, visits from Chelsea Football, Coco (our reading support dog). Then of course, over the holy period of December, we will begin Advent preparations in the lead up to Christmas.

And on that note, as the season of Advent approaches, please encourage your children to reflect on the message from Sunday's Gospel and The Feast of All Saints. Encourage them to think about how they can be a 'blessing' to others. As the Wednesday Word states:

"On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October we celebrate the feast of 'All Saints'- those people whom the church recognises as models of love and who are already in heaven. In this Sunday's Gospel, the blessings which promise happiness are called the Beatitudes and they show us the path that will lead us closer to God. ***The saints tried hard to follow the teaching of the beatitudes in their day-to day lives and Jesus called us to do the same.*** Ask your child what the word 'saint' means to them. Which saints have they heard about? Which one is their favourite and why? Are they, or you, named after a saint or do they know anyone who is named after a saint? Which people do you know who try to follow these teachings and show some of the saintly qualities described in this Gospel?"

***Dear Lord Jesus, please help me to see and admire the saintly qualities in others and help me to grow more like you each day.***

***Amen***

Please also continue to support your child in their educational, emotional and spiritual growth by developing a 'Growth Mindset'.

**The 8 learning behaviours we focus on at school are:**

- \*Being curious (curiosity)
- \*Having a go (perseverance)
- \*Co-operating
- \*Enjoying learning
- \*Improving
- \*Using your imagination (creativity)
- \*Concentrating
- \*Not giving up (resilience)

**Here is a brief outline of what your child will be learning about this half term:**

**Festivals, Colour and Light**

Subject	Coverage	Suggestions as to how you can support learning at home
Communication, Language and Literacy	We will be finding out how to listen and respond to a range of stories and information books linked to our topic 'Festivals, colour and Light.' We will be looking at how stories are structured and we will be thinking about retelling events from familiar stories.	When you read with your child, ask them to tell you about the characters in the stories. Stop before the end of the book – what do they think will happen next?
Maths	This term we will continue to learn about number and watching Numberblocks. We will be comparing quantities and looking at how numbers are made up. We will be looking at shape and colours in our local environment.	Count objects with your child, take a group of objects up to 5 and see how many other ways you can make that number. For example, $5 = 1+4$ $0+5$ $2+3$
RE	We will be continuing to follow the Come and See RE curriculum. This term we are focusing on how we celebrate birthdays and Advent as we lead up to Christmas.	You can help your child by talking about festivals and events that they have celebrated.

<p>Understanding the world</p>	<p>We will be learning about a colour every week. They will be looking at pictures of different celebrations and festivals and taking part in Christmas celebrations.</p> <p>We are continuing with our Fresh Air Fridays, looking at how the garden is changing over the seasons and finding out about the different minibeasts we have found.</p>	<p>Point out different colours that you see around your home, talk about favourite colours and how they make you feel.</p>
<p>Physical</p>	<p>We will be continuing to move in different ways and use our climbing frame independently. The children will be writing their names in different colours each week.</p>	<p>Help your child to write their name in lower case letters.</p>
<p>EAD</p>	<p>We have transformed our role play area into a 'Sensory Den' – a calm place to listen to music, feel different textures and smell some lovely scents!</p> <p>We will continue to represent our own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology, art, music, dance, role play and stories.</p> <p>We will be studying a painting along with the rest of the school looking closely at the sky and different aspects of the painting.</p>	<p>Ask your child to teach you a song that they have learnt at school.</p> <p>Dance together to a favourite song.</p>
<p>PATHS</p>	<p>We will be continuing to learn about our friends Twiggle, Daphne, Henrietta and Duke, learning how to be a good friend.</p> <p>We are naming our feelings – linking this to the story The Colour Monster.</p>	<p>Ask your child to tell you about their friends.</p> <p>Encourage your child to name and talk about how they are feeling, using words like grumpy, scared, excited etc.</p>

All teachers at St Mary's Primary School follow the homework policy.

**In the Nursery we will follow this homework timetable:**

Reading	Reading books will be changed on <b>Mondays</b> . Please read with your child and write any comments in their reading record.
Homework books	There are activities for your child to do at home in their home learning book and letter formation each week. These are changed on <b>Fridays</b> .

**Owing to the Covid 19 epidemic and the need to social distance, unfortunately there will be no assemblies or nativities in the Autumn term. However, virtual Advent services and Nativities will take place like last academic year.**

**Supporting your child with writing at home.**

**Early writing activities:**

1. Encourage children to look for print in their environment –road signs, food packets, shops, catalogues etc.
2. Try activities to develop fine motor skills e.g. cutting, using playdough, using tweezers, using clothes pegs, tracing.
3. Use a chalkboard to write family messages on.
4. Make labels for things around the house.
5. Write a shopping list – real or imaginary! Or any other sort of list.
6. Letter formation – practise forming letters using paint, in sand, using playdough or pastry.
7. Let your child write their own Christmas cards or birthday cards to people.
8. Use magnetic letters – your child can leave a message on the fridge.
9. Encourage and praise early squiggles and marks which show your child is beginning to understand writing.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's class teacher at any time should you wish to discuss progress, attainment or welfare or if you have any questions or worries. We all want happy children who are ready to learn and happy families ready to support good learning!

Kind regards

Class Teacher: Mrs Liz Ostrowski

Support Staff: Ms Belinda Boyce

Ms Melissa Traynor