



## Parents and Carers Information Leaflet – Spring 2 Year 1



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### Dear Parents and Carers

#### **WELCOME BACK!**

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break.

#### **Important Dates:**

#### **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Academic Review Day

#### **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

World Book Day

#### **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Year 1 Trip to Hampstead Heath

#### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020**

Easter Service at Chapel – 9.05am

#### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020**

End of term – 2.00pm

### General Information

#### **PE:**

Year 1 will have P.E. on Tuesday. On days that children have P.E. lessons scheduled, they are asked to come into school wearing their P.E. kit. They will remain in their kit for the whole day.

#### **Homework:**

Homework is set on a Friday and should be returned to school the following Wednesday. Children will be set Reading, Phonics, English and Mathematics homework each week. It is important that your child completes their homework in order to support their learning in class and to ensure that they make good progress throughout the year. Thank you for your support in this. If you would like advice on supporting your child with homework, please see your class teacher.

Please read with your child daily. Children should aim to read at home for **at least 10 minutes per day**.

#### **Belongings:**

Please label all belongings with a permanent marker, and ensure that your child has their book bag or rucksack with them every day (book bags and rucksacks are available to buy from the school office).

## **Curriculum Overviews**

**English:** This half-term we will start with exploring a narrative text. The focus text will be 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. Writing outcomes will include writing a description of a character and writing in the role from a character's point of view. We will also be exploring non-fiction texts linked to our Geography topic about our local area. The children will learn to write an information leaflet about our local area and write a recount about a school trip.

**Phonics:** The foundation of early reading is learning to decode fluently through systematic synthetic phonics. At St George's, children in Reception and KS1 take part in daily group Read, Write Inc. lessons where they learn synthetic phonics in an integrated way, which links their reading and writing.

**Spelling:** We will continue to focus on spelling common exception words (tricky words) and high frequency words. Common exception words are words that do not follow the common phonetic spelling rules of the language, or where the usual rules act in an unusual way; e.g. the, was, my etc. High frequency words are words that appear most commonly in everyday usage; e.g. that, and, with etc.

**Reading:** In KS1, children have Guided Reading lessons in addition to the Read, Write Inc. programme. They read with an adult at least once a week, and participate in a range of activities to help develop their word reading and comprehension skills, as well as promoting a love of reading for pleasure. Children read banded books matched to their current phonic knowledge and instructional reading level.

**Handwriting:** We will continue to practise writing with correct letter and number formation.

**Mathematics:** In the following areas, we will learn to:

Number: Place Value (within 50)

- Count to 50, forwards and backwards, beginning with 0 or 1, from any number;
- Count, read and write numbers to 50 in numerals and words;
- Given a number, identify one more or less.
- Identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations.

Measurement: Length and Height

- Compare, describe and solve practical problems for lengths and heights (long/short, tall/short).

Measurement: Weight and Volume

- Compare, describe and solve practical problems for mass/weight (heavier than or lighter than);
- Compare, describe and solve practical problems for capacity and volume (full or empty, more than or less than).

**Religious Education:** In R.E. our learning questions are, 'What are God's rules for living?' and 'Why is Easter the most important festival for Christians?'

We will be exploring:

- What the 10 commandments are;
- What the 10 commandments teach us about the nature of God;
- The events of the Easter Story as told in the Bible;
- What the events of the Easter Story teach us about Jesus;
- Why the events of Easter are so important to Christians.

**History:** History was taught last half term.

**Geography:** Our learning question for Geography this half-term is, 'What is in my local area?'

We will learn to:

- Understand areas near and far from school;
- How to follow a simple map;
- Recognise features of our local area;
- Annotate a map of our local area;
- Describe our local area.

**Art:** Our art skills focus for this half-term will be printing. We will learn to:

- Experience the process of printing;
- Experiment with a range of objects, shapes and patterns;
- Hand printing and object printing in clay;
- Hand writing and object printing on paper;
- Create simple printing blocks.

**Music:** We will be exploring the Bossa Nova latin style of music through the song 'Round and Round'.

**PSHE:** This half-term, children will be learning about 'Mental health and emotional wellbeing (Feelings)', as well as, 'Keeping safe and managing risk (My money)'.

**Computing:** Computing will be taught next term.

**Science:** Our Science themes this term are 'Seasonal change' and 'Everyday Materials'.

We will continue to learn to:

- Describe the weather;
- Find patterns about the time of sunset;
- Talk about our observations of seasons;
- Identify and name everyday materials;
- Identify and name paper in a variety of forms;
- Identify and name a variety of fabrics;
- Recognise that most objects are made from more than one material;
- Describe how the same type of object can be made using different materials;
- Identify and describe the physical properties of a selection of materials;
- Investigate the stretchiness and flexibility of selected materials;
- Explore the properties of absorbency and waterproofing.

**Physical Education:** This half-term our area of focus for PE is 'Dance' and 'Attack, Defend, Shoot'. We will learn to:

- Respond to a range of stimuli and types of music;
- Explore space, direction, levels and speed;
- Experiment creating actions and performing movements with different body parts;
- Practise running, jumping, throwing and catching;
- Play some competitive activities;
- Experience opportunities to improve agility, balance and coordination.



## **Attendance and Punctuality**

It is important that children arrive at school by 8.55, as registers are taken and checked first thing and any absences chased up by the office staff. Remember to call and let us know if your child is going to be absent for any reason so we can record this in the register.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of attendance and punctuality. Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people maximise their learning potential and have the best opportunities in adult life.

Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning:

Arriving **5 minutes** late every day adds up to over **3 days** lost each year.

Arriving **15 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **2 weeks** a year.

Arriving **30 minutes** late every day is the same as being absent for **19 days** a year.