



Care, Grow and Flourish  
in God's Loving Hands

# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## Reception Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

**Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term: September 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

A huge welcome to St Mary's and Reception. We hope that you all managed to find some time to relax over the summer.

Our focus for the first few weeks will be on supporting the children as they transition into their new environment. As part of this focus we will carry out a range of creative activities that will help children become accustomed to their new routines and classroom, whilst also helping them form positive relationships with their peers and the adults working with them.

As the term progresses, much of the learning will stem from our key Literacy texts 'Rainbow Fish', 'It's Okay to be Different' and 'The Leaf Thief'. The table below provides a brief overview of the learning experiences children will be having across the curriculum areas.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
Communication Language and Literacy	<p>The children will have the opportunity to develop this area through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talking in small groups</li> <li>Using talk to extend play</li> <li>Using descriptive language to create characters</li> <li>Retelling stories through the use of puppets and small world play</li> <li>Making and discussing their own stories</li> <li>Joining in singing and rhyming activities</li> </ul>
Phonics	<p>The children will be learning the phase 2 sounds. This will include reading and spelling words containing the following phonemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Set 1</b> – s a t p</li> <li><b>Set 2</b> – i n m d</li> <li><b>Set 3</b> – g o c k</li> <li><b>Set 4</b> – c k e u r</li> <li><b>Set 5</b> – h b f ff l ll ss</li> </ul> <p>The children will also be learning to read and spell the following harder to read and spell words:</p> <p><b>I, the, no, put, of, is, to, go, into, pull, as, his</b></p>

Physical Development	<p>Weekly children will take part in two PE lessons. In class this area will be developed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manipulating a range of different tools such as paint brushes, scissors and pencils</li> <li>• Learning to travel in different ways including jumping, crawling, hopping and skipping</li> <li>• Engaging with hygiene routines to keep ourselves safe</li> </ul>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<p>Our PSHE focus will include the children settling into school by understanding routines and learning how we look after our class room.</p> <p>We will also be focusing on 'Being Me in My World', where the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand how they are each unique</li> <li>• Discuss emotions about starting school</li> <li>• Discuss different problems they may come across in school and how they would solve these</li> <li>• Discuss how they share and the rights they each have</li> </ul>
Literacy	<p>The children will be using the key texts in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore mark making</li> <li>• Create story maps</li> <li>• Sequence stories</li> <li>• Create messages and labels</li> <li>• Answering simple questions about events in a story</li> <li>• Write some of the letters in their name</li> </ul>
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using positional language to describe where things go in the classroom</li> <li>• Identify items of different shapes, colours and sizes.</li> <li>• Group different objects by identifying similarities and differences.</li> <li>• Making comparisons – height, length and quantity.</li> <li>• Exploring patterns – Can they notice a repeating pattern? Can they identify mistakes?</li> <li>• Recognising, subitising and counting 1,2,3.</li> </ul>
Understanding of the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making observations about themselves in order to create a self – portraits.</li> <li>• Creating representations of their families.</li> <li>• Talking about different members of their family and some of the special things they do together.</li> <li>• Asking questions about owls and making observations about them by looking a pictures.</li> <li>• Find out about birds' nests and gather materials to create their own.</li> <li>• Look at trees in our setting and compare different types of sticks.</li> </ul>
Expressive Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Painting their self-portraits.</li> <li>• Creating representational drawings of their families.</li> <li>• Exploring how they can create their own Rainbow Fish.</li> <li>• Creating their own stick man from items gathered.</li> <li>• Creating their own owl nests.</li> </ul>
RE	<p>We will also be focusing on 'Why is the word 'God' so important to Christians?' where the children will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the special people in their lives</li> <li>• Understand the importance of names</li> <li>• Explore the importance of God to Christians</li> <li>• Consider the impact of God in the bible and in the church</li> </ul>

## **Reading**

Later in the half term, we will be sending home school reading books. These books will be sent home in a plastic folder, which we will provide. We ask that these reading folders and reading books are sent into school every day.

One of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning is to ensure that they engage with 10- 15 minutes reading every day. This can consist of hearing them read their school reading book or sharing books that you have at home. Your child will also receive a **paper reading record** to monitor reading. It is important that you look at the reading record on a regular basis and make a brief comment about your child's reading at least once a week.

## **PE**

The children will have a PE session on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**. On these days, children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of their school PE t-shirt, jogging bottoms/PE shorts and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

## **What will my child need in school?**

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle
- Folder containing reading book (provided by school)
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Children having packed lunch will need a lunch box please.

We are very much looking forward to working with you over the course of the next academic year. If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your support.

***Miss Christou and the Reception Team***