



St. Mary's C of E School

Biggs Lane | Fownhope | Herefordshire | HR1 4PG
Tel: 01432 860474

web: www.st-marys-fownhope.co.uk
email: info@st-marys-pri.hereford.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr. T. Milne

Reception Class Information Booklet

This booklet is for you and your family. It tells you all about the different things that happen at St. Mary's C of E Primary School. We hope that you enjoy looking through it, and we look forward to seeing you soon when you start school.

As you are aware, under the current circumstances we are not entirely sure whether we will be able to open the school fully in September. Therefore the information below is provisional and subject to change; we will, of course, keep you informed of any changes as soon as we know them.

Your first day of school will be Wednesday 2nd September.

You will be joining us every day from **8:45am - 3:10pm**.

On your first day your grown-ups will bring you to your new classroom with one of the prefects, to help put your belongings away and to see where you will be learning.

At **8:55am** your grown-ups will say goodbye to you, and they will pick you up at the end of the day at **3:10pm**.

You are Special

You will take it in turns with your friends to be the special class helper. When it is your turn, you will help to get everybody's milk and will carry out other little jobs such as taking the lunch register to the office.

We also have a special behaviour rocket. The aim is to be moved up to 'gold' by doing something that your teacher thinks is fantastic! If you achieve gold, you will be allowed to pick a special treat out of the treat box.



Your Belongings

You will have your own coat peg with your name on it. You can hang your coat, school bag and PE kit here. ***Please make sure all of your belongings are labelled.***

In the classroom you will have a tray with your name on it. You can keep your snack and your special work in here. Your clear water bottle will be kept at the snack desk and your lunchbox will be kept on a trolley in the cloakroom. You may drink water throughout the

day in a bottle kept in the classroom but squash is only allowed at lunch time (from a separate bottle inside your lunch box).

Each day you will put your book bag in a special box. Letters to be sent home will go in your book bag with your school reading book and reading diary.

What you will need checklist:

- ▶ School uniform
- ▶ PE kit - A school navy PE top, plain navy or black PE shorts, trainers that you can fasten yourself, navy or black tracksuit bottoms/leggings, a warm navy jumper/zipped hoodie, socks and a hat and gloves on very cold days.
- ▶ Book bag - available from the uniform shop.
- ▶ Water bottle - £2.50 from the uniform shop.
- ▶ Waterproof coat - this can be hung on your peg.
- ▶ Wellington boots - these can be kept in a box in the cloakroom so that we can play outside whatever the weather! (You can take these home as and when needed)
- ▶ Spare change of clothes including pants and socks - in case of any accidents.
- ▶ Hat & sun cream - these can be brought in as and when needed.
- ▶ A healthy snack - fruit, cereal bars etc. (Grown-ups please note we are a nut free school). Free fruit is provided in the classroom.

Arriving in the Morning

When you come to school every day you will wait outside the playground gates with your grown-up until the gate is opened for you to come in at **8:40am**. After saying goodbye, you will come onto the playground until you hear the first bell at **8:45am** which means stop what you are doing and stand quietly. The bell will ring again for you to walk quietly inside where you can put your things away.

Morning Snack

Before morning play you will be able to eat your healthy snack that you bring in from home. There is free fruit available at school for you to help yourself to as well. This might be an apple, pear, banana, satsuma. etc. In the afternoon you will sit in a circle with the rest of your class to drink your milk and have a special story time.

Assemblies

Each day at school we all meet together for an assembly. This will be with the rest of the children in the school. You will be hear stories, say prayers and sing a hymn at this time.

On Friday afternoons we have our Good News Assembly where we praise special work and achievements. Your families are welcome to come and join us at this special time.

Lunchtime

At lunchtime you will eat your food in the hall with the rest of your class. You can bring a packed lunch in a lunchbox from home (please make sure it has your name on, so you will not lose it) or you may like to have a special cooked lunch from school instead. These are completely free for Key Stage 1 children. Your grown-ups use ParentPay to help you choose what you would like to eat and book it online.

Reading

We hope you enjoy sharing books with your friends and families and are getting to know lots of rhymes. At school you will hear stories every day. The book corner in your classroom is a special place to sit while you are looking at and reading books.

Phonics

At school we use Read Write Inc. to help you learn your sounds.

Fred the Frog cannot speak in words, he can only speak using pure sounds. Fred helps us to sound out words and then we blend the sounds into words for him. In your first term in Reception you will be taught how to say set 1 sounds as well as how to write them using memorable and enjoyable phrases. As you learn the sounds in school you will take home a sheet for your families to help you say, recognise and write these sounds.



At school you will read big books with your teacher and after a while you will take a book home. You will be able to turn the pages and point to the words as you read them. At first you will share your school reading book with your families, looking at the pictures and talking about what happens. With lots of practice at home & at school you will soon begin to use your phonics to help you sound out and blend the sounds in the words.



You will have a reading diary to keep in your book bag. Your grown-up will record when you read to them and how you got on. The teachers will do their best to change your reading books every day. On the days when your book isn't changed it is a good idea to re-read the story from the day before and talk about it lots. If you read 5 times in a week, you get a sticker on a bookmark and when you fill up your bookmark you will receive a book in Good News Assembly.

Writing

Writing is FUN! At school you will learn how to form your 'pre-cursive' letters correctly and also how to write sentences using capital letters and full stops. We write while we play all the time; in the role play areas, outside and on the writing table.

When you have been at school a while you will begin to know, recognise and write the sounds you hear in words. Then you will quickly begin to write sentences too!

You will be able to do lots of other activities at school to help with your writing. These include tracing over pictures, drawing patterns, colouring, making models with play-doh, cutting and writing in the sand as well as other messy materials.

Mathematics

Before you come to school you can do lots of things at home with your family that will help you with your maths:

- Recognise numbers around you and count amounts of objects.
- Sort blocks by colour and size.
- Fit jigsaw puzzles together.
- Learn nursery rhymes and number songs such as "Five currant buns".
- Play lots of games where you have to throw a dice and move along a board.
- Cooking - talk about which things are heavy and light, how much you need and counting and sharing.
- Talk about your family - who is the youngest, oldest, tallest or shortest?
- Talk about time using words such as morning, night, yesterday, tomorrow and next week.
- At bath time look at which things float or sink; is the bath full or empty?
- When you are getting dressed look at things you put on first and last, which is the back and front, how many buttons have you got?
- At meal times you can lay the table and make sure you have enough knives and forks for everyone.
- When you go shopping you can look at the numbers and look at coins. You can look at the shape, size and colour of the boxes.
- Count ten toys when you tidy up.

At school we will do lots of mathematical activities. You will do lots of exciting things including measuring, weighing, looking at shapes, making models and following directions. We will be counting to 20 and writing the matching numbers as well as writing simple addition and subtraction sums. We like to watch the Cbeebies 'Number blocks' episodes!

PE

At school you will do PE at least twice a week. You can bring your kit in a PE bag and leave it at school until the holidays. PE varies from dancing to music, simple gymnastics using climbing equipment, games with hoops, ropes, balls and beanbags as well stretching to help your core muscles.

When you get changed for PE you should be able to correctly take off and put on most of your clothes by yourself. Your teacher will help you with things you find hard. Please do practise getting changed at home to become independent with dressing and undressing and also practise turning your clothes the right way and not leaving them inside out.

Your PE kit and all of your other clothes should have your name sewn in so that they don't get lost or mixed up with someone else's, as everyone's kit looks the same!

Messy Activities

At school you will be able to do lots of "messy" things. You can paint, stick, make models, use clay and play in the sand and the water. We have aprons at school to keep your uniform clean and also to keep you dry when you play in the water. If however you do get wet, it is best to keep a spare change of clothes (school uniform) on your peg that you can change in to. It is also a good idea to put in some spare underwear (pants and socks) in case of any accidents.

Home Time

You go home at **3.10pm**. Your grown-up should wait for you on the top playground outside your classroom. Your teacher will make sure they see your grown-up before you can go. Sometimes your grown-up may be a few minutes late. Don't worry; you can wait safely with your teacher until they come. If somebody different is going to pick you up from school, your grown-up will need to let the office know before **12:00pm** so that they can pass on the message to whoever will be dismissing you.

Information Evening

When you have been at school a few weeks, your teacher will invite your grown-ups into school for an information evening about how we teach you to read in school using Read Write Inc.

Each term your grown-up will be invited to a Parents' Evening. They will be able to talk to your teacher about the progress you have made since you started school. They may be asked to help by doing special things at home with you.

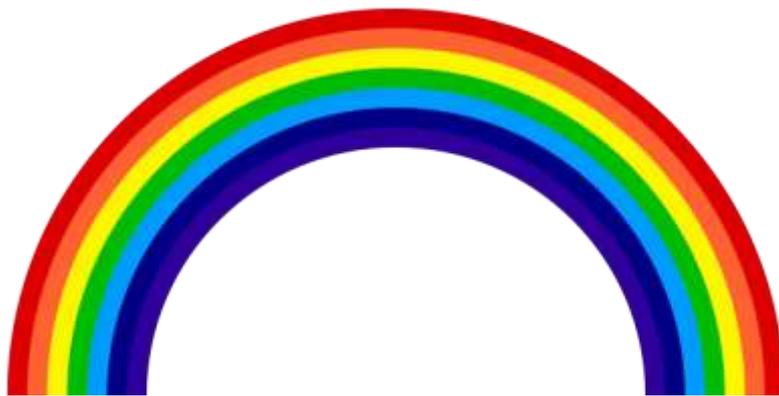
We will take lots of photographs of you and write about all the great things you do in school too. These will create your very own special online learning journey. We hope that you will add to this in order to share all of the wonderful learning you do with your family at home and show us all of the fantastic things you are interested in!

We hope this booklet has helped you and your family to know what will happen when you start school.

Remember, when you come to school you will learn lots of new things and have lots of fun with your teachers and your new friends. I hope you are looking forward to joining us at St. Mary's!

Have a super summer holidays ready for an exciting year ahead!

Miss Welling



***What we nurture today,
flourishes tomorrow***