



Class Newsletter

Spring 2025: Reception

Miss Clarke

Our PE day is:

FRIDAY

Our Christian value

this term is:

Wisdom



Uniform

The children must wear

- a maroon sweatshirt, hoodie or cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- grey trousers, shorts or skirt with a sky-blue polo shirt
- or a red or blue gingham dress with black shoes or plain black trainers.

On their PE days they must wear:

- a T-shirt in their House Team colour (every child is provided with one of these, free of charge, at the beginning of every school year)
- PLAIN black, blue or grey shorts, joggers or leggings
- a maroon sweatshirt, hoodie or cardigan
- trainers or plimsols.

Children need to bring a reading bag and a waterbottle to school every day. Backpacks are not allowed in school unless for a specific purpose agreed with the Headteacher.

Stud earrings must be less than 5mm and cannot be worn for PE—either removed or covered with a plaster (brought from home)

Make-up, painted nails, false nails and temporary tattoos are not allowed in school.

The full Uniform Policy can be found at www.stmaryscockerton.org.uk or a paper copy can be requested from the school office

Behaviour

Our school rules are to be safe, to be respectful and to be ready so that everyone feels accepted and valued within a calm and positive environment where we solve problems together. We award House Team Points to reward children for going 'above and beyond' in any aspect of school life. These are counted, announced and celebrated every Friday in our House Team Assembly.

If a child's behaviour falls below our expectations they will work through a series of stepped boundaries:

1. Redirection
2. Reminder
3. Yellow Card
4. Red Card
5. Follow Up

We will always contact parents and carers if a child's behaviour is causing concern and ALWAYS if it extreme such as physical aggression, verbal abuse or bullying.

Homework

Please look at your child's **Home Learning book** and **Reading Record** for ways to support their education—this includes our minimum expectations. Reading books and snuggle up stories to be handed in on a Thursday. They will be changed after school and will be returned to your child on Friday.

Important Dates

- Our safeguarding partners, Clennell Education, will be delivering an **Internet Safety workshop for parents/carers at 3.30pm on 11th February** - more information to follow.
- **Monday 17th and 24th March—Spring Term Parents' and Carers' Evenings** - appointment letters will be sent home nearer the time.
- **Thursday 6th March - World Book Day**
- **Friday 21st March - Red Nose Day**
- **Tuesday 1st April 2025. - class trip to Hopetown Darlington**
- **Friday 4th April—travelling theatre performance of 'A Little Princess' for the whole school**



Phonics: Read Write Inc

This term the children will continue to learn to read through the phonics scheme, Read Write Inc. Phonics assessments were carried out just before Christmas, so that the children

could be placed into smaller groups to ensure they can make good progress in

reading. Our focus this term will be teaching the children to recognise and recall the consonant digraphs (sh, th, ch, qu, ng and nk) as well as read words containing these 'special friends' sounds. Some children will progress on to leaning set 2 sounds (ay, ee, igh, ow, oo) also and by the end of the term all children will have learnt to read some tricky words.



For further information please visit the link below:

home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/



Literacy

At St Marys Cockerton we are passionate about reading! We want your child to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two elements:

Language Comprehension: In Reception, children listen to stories and/or other type of texts each and every single day. The children will be encouraged to discuss what books have been read to them and short stories that they've read all by themselves.

Word Reading: Children will use their knowledge of taught sounds to read words. For some, this will be simple CVC words (consonant– vowel-consonant e.g. p-i-g) and for others this may be words containing special friends (e.g. k-i-ng.) As the term progresses, their fluency and pace should increase too.

Writing

This term the children will work on forming lower case letters correctly, spell words by identifying the sounds and then write the letter down, write captions and by the end of the term some children will begin to write simple sentences.

R.E.

During the first half term we will be thinking about why the word 'God' is important to Christians. As part of this topic the children will be introduced to the idea that Christians believe God created the heavens and the earth. They will learn the key events from the creation story found in Genesis 1. Also during this topic, your child will learn that many Christians try to treat God's name with respect. They will learn that Christians believe Jesus told stories or parables about how much God loves them and find out what this means for believers today.



During the second half of the term we will move on to thinking about why Christians put a cross in the Easter garden. This will involve learning about key events from Palm Sunday until Easter Day in the Christian Salvation story. They will find out about the Christian belief that Jesus saved his people from their sins by dying on the cross and rising again three days later.



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscockertonschool>

Communication and Language

Communication and language underpins all areas of the EYFS curriculum. Back and forth communications are vital in both language and cognitive development.

At St Marys Cockerton your child will experience a language rich environment through listening to a range of fiction and non fiction books, rhymes and poems and then be given the opportunity to use and embed new vocabulary in a range of contexts such as during 'Drawing Club' or whilst engaging in role play.



Mathematical Development

In maths we are going to be super busy this term! We will begin by consolidating our learning of numbers 0-5 which will involve recognising, comparing and understanding what each number is made up of. Then, we will move on to studying numbers 6-10 by considering what the numbers look like on a tens frame, comparing numbers, looking at the composition and combining two amounts and finding the total. We will finish off the term with learning based around the shape, space and measure aspect of the curriculum e.g. comparing mass, capacity and length as well as understanding the properties of 2d and some 3d shapes.

Key Vocabulary

Number, subitise, sort, group, compare, more, less, fewer, total, add, equals, mass, heavy, light, long, short, full, empty, shape, side, corner, face.

PSED

Last term we were thrilled with how quickly the children settled into school and began to form friendships and positive relationships with the adults in the setting. This half term the children will continue to work on their self help skills, particularly focusing on fastening buttons and zipping up their coats. This is a transferrable skill and it would be very much appreciated if this work continues at home, too.

This term the children will continue to work on expressing their feelings, considering the feelings of others and developing resilience and persevere when faced with challenge. We will learn the importance of keeping safe when crossing roads and complete work on stranger awareness and safe strangers.

Key Vocabulary

Happy, sad, worried, scared, anxious, angry, well being, independence, zip, fasten, button, discuss, negotiate, persevere, safe, hazard, stranger.

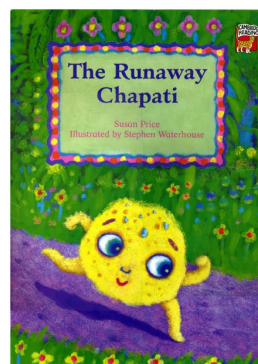
Physical Development

During Spring 1, reception class will continue to develop their fundamental movement skills through the topic of 'places and spaces'. The children will develop skills of balancing, running, hopping, jumping, travelling and changing direction. Children will develop fine and gross motor skills, through handling equipment. They will learn how to stay safe using space. They will work independently and with a partner to complete tasks.

During Spring 2, the children will develop their basic gymnastic skills through the topic of 'animals and their habitats'. They will explore basic movements, creating shapes, balances, and jumps and begin to develop rocking and rolling. Reception class will learn to show an awareness of space and how to use it safely and perform basic skills on both floor and apparatus. Finally they will copy, create, remember and repeat short sequences.

Understanding the World

The children are going to love our new topic! We will begin the term by reading the story of The Runaway Chapati. When the children know the story very well, we will make our own chapatti and journey with them around school, the village and world. Who knows where he/she might go....?



Key Vocabulary

Country Continent land sea climate
Sky Rainforest Polar Regions Desert
Space moon gravity

Creative Development

This term we will be work on our drawing skills by taking part in draw-a-long sessions. The children will recreate various animals such as penguins, tigers and camels. The children will draw with a range of medias such as pencils, charcoal and pastels.

The children will also use clay to sculpt animals from the Chinese New Year story—The Great Race.

Key Vocabulary

paint, draw, colour, mark-make, lines, circles, shapes, colour, mix, primary, secondary, texture, form, technique, pattern, artist, imprint,

Additional Information

PLEASE LABEL ALL PROPERTY BELONGING TO YOUR CHILD INCLUDING SHOES, WELLIES AND TIGHTS

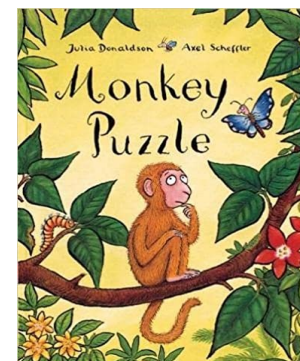
Please remember to send your child to school with a named water bottle, **everyday**. This should contain water only.

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions as we spend lots of time outside no matter what the weather is like. Please ensure during the winter months they are equipped with a warm waterproof coat, hat, scarf and gloves.

Occasionally your child may have an accident, get wet, muddy or messy when exploring, this is completely normal when they're learning and having fun. Due to our stocks being depleted last term, please may we request you send some spare joggers/ leggings, pants and socks to keep on your child's peg, so that should they need to, they can change and remain comfortable throughout the day. If your child uses these we will let you know verbally or using Class Dojo, so that they can be replaced. Finally, if you do have any items of clothing belonging to school, please could you ensure they are returned as soon as possible.

As always, many thanks for your continued support

Our Focus Texts this term are:



Poem: Breezy

Weather

