

Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy



Kinder Advent I

Newsletter

Hello and welcome to all the children and parents who are continuing or joining us in

Kinder, Class of 2026-2027

We are so excited to be part of your child's learning journey at Saint Mary's and look

forward to a year of fun, excitement, learning and achievement.

We hope this newsletter gives you some insight as to what your child will be learning this half term, but if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come and speak with either myself or Mrs Jones.

Reception:

During the first weeks of this term we will be carrying out the Early Years baseline assessments. This is nothing for you or your child to worry about and is predominantly observations of the children playing and settling into school. Once this is complete the children will be introduced to our phonics scheme; Little Wandle. We will be learning a new sound each day and the children will be given their own word cards to practice at home each day. Initially children will be given a picture book to share at home and we encourage them to create their own stories based on the images they see. This will then move to a phonics book linked to the sounds they are learning in class.

Writing

We encourage all forms of mark making and the children will be able to access our writing areas throughout the day. We will provide exciting and engaging activities to help strengthen the children's fine motor skills, including threading, playdough, scissor skills and painting.

Numeracy

The children will be introduced to our Maths scheme; White Rose Maths. The programme provides comprehensive coverage of the EYFS numeracy curriculum through fun and engaging activities. In our Reception class, maths is very practical, using equipment to provide children with a good understanding of number, shape and place-value.

In this term we will be learning about -

- Matching, sorting and comparing objects
- Talking about measuring and patterns
- Counting objects to 5

The children will have daily opportunities to access numeracy tasks in the classroom, to support their learning.

Provision

Your child will have access to provision throughout the day, inside and outside the classroom, we recognise play is the most important part of learning during the early years improving relationships, communication, language and motor skills.

Year 1:

Phonics

We will continue with daily Little Wandle phonics each morning and over the coming weeks your child will be sent home their new sounds/words to practice alongside their reading book. Each week your child will be given 5 spellings, linked to the taught phonic sounds, these will then be revisited each Friday to monitor progression and recall.

Writing

We will be continuing with the fantastic progress the children made last year by working daily on our sentence writing, following the structure: Hold a sentence, say a sentence, write a sentence. This will support their understanding of sentence structure, capital letters and full stops, and develop their language progression throughout the year. We will begin the year exploring our feelings and families before linking our science to our literacy by exploring the seasons with books about squirrels!

Maths

Maths will continue to be taught daily, with lots of encouragement to now work more independently. We will begin by revisiting the foundations of place value and addition and subtraction within 10, comparing numbers, grouping and counting on and backwards.

Art/DT— Mechanisms—Making a moving game

The children will be looking at sliders, and how these can create a moving image. They will learn how a slider can move the object up and down and how a slider mechanism has a slider, slots, guides and an object.

Science - Seasonal Changes

Kinder will be exploring the changes we see outside our window, using our observational skills we will discuss how our local landscape changes and how this impacts the environment and weather.

Music—Keeping the Pulse (My Favourite Things)

Kinder will learn how to keep the pulse using their body as an instrument and tapping while singing a rhythm.

PE

PE will be on a Monday afternoon and will be taught by Miss Osborne, we are following a new scheme called 'Get set for PE', this is a scheme being taught across the whole school and will help to develop key ball skills as well as team building and competitive games.

RE

The children will be learning our morning, lunchtime and afternoon prayer over the first weeks. They will be involved in our regular Class Worship and RE lessons, and will attend the whole school worships.

We will begin RE with a 'Creation and Covenant' topic, where children will be introduced to the Creation Story.

Home school Diary

Your child will soon be given their new home school diary, we will write a comment each time your child has read in school and request you write a comment each time your child shares a book with you (3x a week).

Fruit and milk

School will provide your child with a piece of fruit during morning break, Reception children will also have access to a cup of milk.

Every Friday school will run a tuck shop and your child can buy a sweet treat for 50p or alternatively they can bring a snack from home,

Water bottle

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school each day.