

### **The School Day**

After our 2 transition days last week, we are really pleased with how the children have settled into school life at St George's.

Just a little reminder that our gates now open from 8:30am and at least 1 member of the FS2 team will be there to welcome the children into the unit. The gate closes at 8:45am prompt. If you arrive after that time you will need to sign your child in at the school office.

The gates reopen for the end of day dismissal at 3:15pm. We ask you kindly to wait to be invited into the unit by Mr Groves. Your child's safety is paramount to us, and we therefore only allow 6-8 parents in at one time.

### **Uniform**

At St George's we are extremely proud of our school uniform, and we expect our children to wear the correct uniform at all times.

We are currently wearing our summer uniform and will continue to do so until October half term when it will switch to our winter uniform. If you are unsure of what uniform your child should be wearing please refer to our school website or ask one of the adults in FS2, who would be happy to show you.

\*Uniform can be ordered all year from [uniform-direct.com](http://uniform-direct.com)

### **Reading**

We will hear the children read individually at least once per week. They may be heard by a teacher or teaching assistant. Children will also have opportunity to read in small groups during our daily Read Write Inc sessions. During these sessions the children will be taught how to say, read and write a 'sound of the day.' To help the learning stick, each sound also has an associated action. Videos of these actions can be found on the Ruth Miskin website. Once we have taught about 5/6 sounds, we will then begin to work on blending the sounds together so words can be read as a whole.

Please make time to read with your child every evening, concentrating not only on the sounds/words in the book but also on your child's understanding of what they have read. Reading is best done in a relaxed way, for short periods of time and not too close to bedtime!

During the Advent term books will be changed on a weekly basis. - This is normally a Monday and letter sound booklets will be sent out regularly to correspond with the sounds which we have been learning at school.

As an extra incentive to encourage the children to read, we will be starting our reading challenge from week 3 of the Advent term. Each time your child reads at home and has it recorded in their diary they will move 1 space along the reading

challenge bunting. By the end of the half term, if they have reached the target number, they will receive a small reward.

### **Come and read with your child! - From Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

Every Wednesday morning between 8:30am - 8:45am we would like to invite you into the classroom to read with your child. As soon as you arrive on that morning you are welcome to come straight into class and share either their home/school reading book or a book out of the reading corner. Staff will be available if you have any questions about how to read effectively with your child. As soon as you hear our tidy up music you are free to leave so we can make a prompt start on the day's learning.

### **P.E.**

P. E. for both classes will take place on a Thursday afternoon. Please make sure that their P.E. kit is in school and that all the clothes your child will take off are clearly labelled. Please encourage your child to try to dress and undress themselves. For safety reasons, please do not allow your child to wear any earrings on P.E. days. On other days, only stud earrings are permitted.

Trainers and a tracksuit can also be kept in school for the children to use if we complete a PE lesson outside.

### **Our Topics**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Half Term**

- Nursery Rhymes and Traditional Tales

The children will take part in weekly topic sessions linked to this theme. Activities will include exploring and creating houses when we read The 3 Little Pigs, designing rafts for the Gingerbread man to cross the river and following a recipe to make vegetable soup when we read The Enormous Turnip.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term**

- Continuation of Traditional tales and Christmas

The children will continue with their weekly topic sessions linked to traditional tales for the first few weeks. They will look at farms when we read Stuck in the Mud, explore materials to make a comfortable bed for Goldilocks and plant seeds when we read Jack and the Beanstalk.

In the final couple of weeks will with look in depth at the Christian festival of Christmas.

## R.E.

**Myself**- Our first R.E topic will give the children a chance to explore the importance of their name. We will be talking about how God knows and loves each one of them.

**Belonging** - This topic looks at how babies are welcomed into their own family and then how some babies are also welcomed into God's family. We will learn who is at a Christian Baptism and what artefacts are used.

**Birthdays** - During the topic the children will have opportunity to talk about their own experiences of birthdays and then look in some detail at the Christmas story.

## Wellies

We are lucky enough to spend 3 mornings a week taking part in forest school, as well as our daily outdoor learning activities. At times it can be quite muddy on the field so we ask that all children have a pair of wellies, which can be kept at school, available to use. Please make sure they are named.

## Snack

Our children enjoy the benefit of 'Snack Time'. This is an opportunity for the children to learn responsibility for their own hygiene and their own healthy food choices. It is also a very sociable time of day. We would like to ask for a one off payment of £25.00 which can be paid via Parent Mail.

## Name Labelling

It is vital that you label **EVERY** piece of clothing your child owns, including PE kits and shoes as it can be difficult to return items if they are lost.

## Phonics and Maths Session

During the first half term we like to invite parents to come into school and watch us teach a phonics and maths session. As soon as baseline has been completed, we will send a date and time out to you all. It is an extremely beneficial session and we hope to see as many of you there as possible.

## Over the next few weeks

To help settle your child at school please practise name writing, getting dressed/undressed independently, cutting, counting out objects to 5 and speaking about stories. This will help develop confidence ready for our lessons to begin.

# Welcome to Foundation Stage 2 at St George's School



We look forward to getting to know you and your family during this extremely exciting year of your child's school journey. We are ready to build the foundations they will need to become lifelong learners.

Let the fun begin!

Mrs Bennett and Miss Johnson