



St Mary's C of E Primary School
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Head Teacher: Miss Sarah Gray

Date: 11/09/26

Dear Families of Year 5,

What a fantastic start to Year 5 we have had! We have embraced the Autumn term with enthusiasm, ambition, and of course respect—our focus value for this half term. Together, we have taken time to establish new routines and to remind ourselves of the high expectations we hold in Year 5, particularly in relation to behaviour for learning, social interactions, organisation and homework.

This half term will be crammed with the usual exciting learning opportunities. You can find out what topics we are covering on the school website's whole school curriculum map.

Homework

Homework will continue to be set every Thursday and should be handed in by the following Tuesday. Tasks will be marked together as a class during the week. Work will be shared via Google Classroom, and children should complete their answers in their homework books. Tasks will include reading, spelling, maths, and times tables, all linked to our current learning. Children are encouraged to complete these in any order, giving them a chance to take ownership of their learning and to build knowledge, skills, and independence in a way that suits them best.

Reading

Reading remains a high priority in Year 5. As confidence and fluency grow, many children begin to enjoy reading independently, which we strongly encourage. However, we also ask that families continue to read together regularly. Reading with your child helps correct errors, check understanding, and introduce new vocabulary. Sharing stories—whether taking turns reading or enjoying a bedtime book—also models fluent reading, supports comprehension, and keeps longer texts moving forward at a pace that maintains interest and enjoyment.



'Lockdown Hero' Award
FOR OUTSTANDING LEARNER
AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

SILVER WINNER





Toys and Personal Items

Toys should not be brought into school. On limited occasions, a child may be permitted to bring a small transition or comfort item to support them with coming into school and regulating their emotions. This will only be agreed in advance with the class teacher and a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Some children may also benefit from sensory or fiddle resources to support their regulation, attention or focus. Children should not bring sensory or fiddle toys from home. Where these are identified as helpful or appropriate, suitable resources will be provided by the school.

CLASS NOTICES

Our PE days are now Monday and Thursday. On these days, children should come into school wearing their full PE kit. For safety reasons, earrings must be removed before the lesson. Please take some time to practise this at home with your child if needed. Full details of our PE kit expectations can be found on the school website.

Please use the year5@stmarys.916.herts.sch.uk email address to let us know about any alternative arrangements for going home or to contact me to book appointments to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

Class Wish List

We are always grateful for the generous support of our families. With cough and cold season approaching, we would particularly welcome donations of tissues. An updated wish list will also be shared on our class page soon—so do keep an eye out!

Thank you, as always, for your support. I am very much looking forward to an exciting and successful year together.

Warm regards,
Miss Gill

