



ST. MARY MAGDALENE

C OF E SCHOOL

PENINSULA CAMPUS

Excellence through innovation,
founded in faith since 1840.

FEDERATION EXECUTIVE CO-HEADTEACHERS

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright

HEADTEACHER

Mrs Diane Savva-Brown

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Mrs Dayo Ajayi

Tuesday 13th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new term! We hope you had a very enjoyable Christmas break and are ready to continue this school adventure with your child.

Thank you for the wonderful cards and gifts; they were very much appreciated.

We are excited to get back to doing some brilliant learning with your child. In spring one, our learning will be focusing around the 'Super Scientists'. This will involve the children doing lots of fun experiments and scientific investigations.

In Literacy, we are learning the story 'The Magic Porridge Pot' to support our writing and in RE, will be finding out what we can learn from the stories of Jesus.

During spring two, our main topic will be 'Once Upon a Time'. Our learning will centre around traditional tales with our literacy focus being on the story of the 'Three Little Pigs'.

In RE, we will be learning all about what is in an Easter Garden.

Phonics

We will continue to have a big focus on phonics throughout this term, so please support your child with this by continuing to read as often as you can at home, have fun learning the tricky words as well as completing the Little Wandle homework sheets.

PE

PE takes place on a Wednesday. It is essential that your child **wears their full PE kit to school** on a Wednesday. Reminders will be sent home for those who are not wearing the proper kit.

Please ensure your child has a white T-shirt, black/dark shorts, jogging bottoms as well as trainers or plimsolls and a tracksuit top.

Thank you to all of you who do this already but with the weather getting colder, please make sure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. This will help them come back to your child quickly if they are lost or misplaced. Please note that for your own child's welfare, hoop earrings are not to be worn. Only studs are allowed as stated in the school prospectus.

Reading books

Reading books will continue to be changed every **Wednesday**. Your child will continue to take home a phonics book which matches what they are reading in school, as well as a pleasure for reading book. This is to encourage you to read with your child and share a love of reading.

Your child will receive a tick for their reading bookmark. Once your child has collected 12 ticks, they will receive a special reading certificate in collective worship. We suggest that you listen to your child read at least **three times a week**, this will vastly improve their reading and writing skills. It really does make a difference. Each time you read with your child, please make sure you sign their reading record – **If you do not sign your child's reading record we will assume that you have not read the book.**

In the case of a lost reading record, there will be a cost of £1 to replace it. If you lose or damage a school reading book there will be a £6 cost to replace it.

Handwriting books

Thank you to all of you who have been supporting your children with their handwriting practice. It is making a big difference. Please continue to return these on a Wednesday along with your child's reading books, so that I am able to stick the next week's letters and words in.

Early Morning Reading

We will continue to have our Early Morning reading session on a Tuesday from 8.40-8.55am. Please put your name on the sheet located on the classroom door leading to the playground, if you would like to stay and read with your child.

Communicating with the teacher

If you have any queries or concerns, please come and speak to me after school once all the children have been dismissed. Alternatively, you can make an appointment at the office, if you wish to have a longer or more private discussion.

I look forward to your support while continuing to work with your child and helping them get the most from their second term in reception.

Kind regards,

Mrs Nutton

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