



ST. MARY MAGDALENE

C OF E SCHOOL

WOOLWICH CAMPUS

*Excellence through innovation,  
founded in faith since 1840.*

FEDERATION EXECUTIVE CO-HEADTEACHERS

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright

HEAD OF SCHOOL, WOOLWICH CAMPUS

Mrs Tiffany King

Friday 9th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to St Mary Magdalene CE Primary School. The class teacher in Makeba Class is Mrs Turner and the Teaching Assistant is Mrs Spearman. We are all very pleased to be teaching Reception this year. I hope you and your child are looking forward to the year ahead as much as we are. We will have a meet and greet session on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September and you will have lots of opportunities to learn about your child's first year in school via the online Journal called Tapestry. We also aim to regularly update you via the school blog, newsletters, emails, text messages and satchel.

Our learning this term will be focused on 'All about me' where children will build upon their previous experiences and knowledge of nursery and pre-school. In the first two weeks, we establish the class rules and expectations and explore the indoor and outdoor class environment. In week 3, as the children start in full education, we continue to explore our topic 'All about Me', encouraging a sense of community across the entire school, and also help children to look forward to the future in a positive way. It will also offer an opportunity to give time for the children to get used to the systems and routines of school. They will use the outdoor equipment for developing their co-ordination skills and will have the opportunity to develop their social skills by working closely with the other reception class.

We will be covering all areas of learning through our themes. In the first half of the term we will be thinking about who we are and what we can do and how we have changed. In the second half term, we will be thinking about Light and Celebrations in various religions. A big focus of our Literacy will be Phonics. Please help your child by practising the phonemes (sounds) they are learning in school. In RE we will be thinking about 'Why Christians believe Jesus is special' and we will be learning about different Festivals.

For this term your child will not be required to bring a PE kit with them to school. The children are given ample opportunities to be physical outside by using the climbing apparatus, a variety of bikes and ball games to mention a few. The children will be having weekly dance lessons later in the year at the end of school (day and time to be confirmed) and will need to wear plimsols for this activity. Please note for your own child's welfare, hooped earrings are not to be worn. Only studs are allowed as stated in the school prospectus.

After Christmas break P.E will take place twice a week. It is essential that your child brings their full PE kit to school on a Monday and that it remains in school until Friday when it needs to be taken home for washing. Please could you ensure your child has a white T-shirt, black/dark shorts and jogging bottoms as well as trainers or plimsolls and a tracksuit top (especially as the weather becomes colder for outdoor PE). It is important that both PE kit and school uniform are clearly labelled with your child's name. The children are responsible for their own clothes. Please note for your own child's welfare, hooped earrings are not to be worn. Only studs are allowed as stated in the school prospectus.

The teaching assistant will change the children's reading books once a week. Please read with your child and write comments in the reading record book. If your child loses their reading record, they will be asked to bring in £5.00 to pay for a replacement. If your child loses their reading record book, they will be asked to bring in £1.00 to buy a replacement. Homework menus will be sent out once the children have settled and started full time. Please send the homework in as they complete each task. Alternatively, you can complete the Homework Menu on Satchel, an online platform.

Children will be dropped off at the Reception class door at 8.40 am and will be collected from the Reception Class door at 15:10 pm. Please ensure to follow a queuing system and ensure your child does not play in the Reception outdoor space before school starts as the activities will be set up for learning. We are always available and happy to speak with you if you have any concerns or issues that you wish to discuss. Alternatively, you can speak to the class teacher by making an appointment at the office. We look forward to your support while working with your child and helping them get the most from their first term in school.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Turner and Mrs Spearman

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