

# YEAR 1 SPRING 1

## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2023

[www.stmaryshorsforth.org](http://www.stmaryshorsforth.org)

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school after the Christmas holidays. I hope you had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year at St Mary's. I am so pleased to be the Year 1 teacher and I have got a very exciting half term planned for all the children.

In English, we will be focusing on traditional tales. The children will be looking at a range of stories and will be focusing on writing character descriptions and postcards. One of the stories we are going to be focusing on and writing about is Little Red Riding Hood alongside an alternative version called Little Red by Bethan Woollvin. We will also do some cross-curricular writing with our geography topic as I help your children to write a non-chronological report about penguins.

Year One will have their spelling test every Friday. The list of spellings for the half term will be sent home during the first week and the first test will be on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Please continue to practise your child's spellings with them each week as this supports them with their reading, writing and phonics.

In our daily phonics lesson, we will continue to use Floppy's Phonics to support your child with their reading and spelling skills. We will revise the sounds taught by Miss Hughes as we learn new sounds. The skills taught help your child to blend for reading and segment for spelling.

Please continue to return reading books to school on a Monday so we can change the books. Please can you keep your child's reading folder in their book bag as we will be reading with all children and recording this in their reading records. We recommend that your child reads for a minimum of 10 minutes per day, reading out loud to an adult. During the week, you can ask your child a range of comprehension questions such as: who their favourite characters are; what they think will happen next in the story; did they like/dislike the story (and why) or discuss their favourite parts.

In maths, we will be looking at place value and addition & subtraction within 20. We will be comparing and ordering numbers, calculating doubles, and solving missing number problems. We will continue to have a session each week working on arithmetic skills and mental maths.

In RE, we will start a new unit called 'Families and Celebrations'. We will learn about our own experience of family celebrations and discuss celebrations that happen in church such as baptism.

To find out more about the other curriculum areas we will be studying this half term, please visit our website to see our [knowledge organisers](#).

I will do everything I can to ensure your child is happy and makes good progress. Please don't hesitate to come and see me if you have any questions or want to chat. I am looking forward to getting to know you all this year.

Many thanks,  
Mr Waddington

### Important Days

#### Monday

Reading books to be changed.

#### Thursday & Friday

PE lesson (come in PE kit).

#### Friday

Spelling Test.

### Important Dates

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>  
January 10.00am –  
Open the Book.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January  
- visit from Father  
Henry.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
February 4.00pm –  
Year 1 maths  
meeting via Zoom.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
9.15am – Year 1  
Class Assembly

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
– School closes.

