Welcome back to the final term of your child’s first year in school! It has been an exciting year so far and we have many more wonderful events planned for the Summer Term. This includes a wedding, our summer trip, parent lunches, picnic with year 6 buddies and open afternoon.

Our theme for this term is:

What an adventure!

We will be travelling on many different adventures starting with a visit to The Secret Garden meeting the fairies and gnomes, then heading off through The Jungle, Under the Sea meeting some swashbuckling pirates along the way! We will also be thinking about different ways of travelling to these different destinations.

Want to help?
- Have you been on any adventures or trips that you can share with your children?
- When sharing story books talk about what they think might happen next, thinking of words they could use to describe things in the pictures.
- Making up their own stories about their favourite characters. Where they would go on an adventure and what would happen etc...

In this issue find out about:
- Our themes
- RE
- School trip
- Reading
- Key Words
- Water bottles
- Sun hats
- Independence
- School clothing
- Wow labels
**Reading:**
Please keep practising your child’s key words and encourage your child to read them by sight now. The children do need to build up a good sight vocabulary to support their reading. As they become more confident at reading them please could you encourage them to try and use some of the key words to build sentences at home. For some children practising to write these words at home would be hugely beneficial too.

**Library:**
Please could you ensure that your child has their library book in their book bag ready to change each week. If you are not sure which day they change their book please speak to the class teacher.

**RE**
In RE this term we will be learning about the concept of Specialness. The children will learn about special people in Jesus’ life and special clothes Christians wear for different occasions. This will include our very own Year R wedding!

**Independence**
Throughout the Spring term many children have continued to grow in confidence and come into their classroom independently. Please could you help your child achieve this by encouraging them to say goodbye to you at the classroom door. This will be an expectation in Year 1. The class teacher will always be at the door to greet both you and your child in the morning so that you can ask any questions or pass on any information.

**Wow! Labels**
A reminder that we are keen to recognise your child’s achievements out of school. In your child’s book bag there is a sheet of ‘Wow labels’ for you to record their successes. Please remember to record those ‘wow moments’ so that we can add them to your child’s learning journey.
School clothing

If your child has a toileting accident in school then we are happy to provide them with underwear and clothing. However, we do ask that these are washed and returned as soon as possible. We seem to be missing many items so please could you check for any items you may have forgotten to return.

Lost Property

We are often left with unclaimed items of clothing at the end of each week. Unfortunately we are often unable to return it to its rightful owner as the items are unnamed. Please ensure that all of your child’s summer uniform and PE kits (including plimsolls) are named as it is very difficult and time consuming to look through all PE kits to find out who has lost an item of clothing and of course costly for you to replace.

Water bottles:

Please could you ensure that water bottles are in school every day. We will ensure that bottles are sent home each day so that they can be washed and refilled for use the next day. Please only refill your child’s bottle with water.

Sun hats and sun cream

As the weather continues to improve please could you ensure that your child brings a named sun hat into school every day. Please could you also ensure your child has had sun cream applied before school.

PE Days:

Tuesday morning all classes PE session
Please can children continue to come dressed for PE in the morning with their school uniform in a bag.

Penguins: PE Tuesday afternoon

Parrots and Puffins: PE Friday afternoon

Therefore, please ensure that your child has jogging bottoms and a separate PE jumper to wear. If your daughter wears tights please pop some socks in their bag for them to change into. PE kits will stay in school all week.

Please remember all shoulder length hair should be tied up and earrings removed or covered.

Inter-class challenge

Each half term the children take part in an Inter-class competition. The winning class will receive the year group trophy during our whole school worship at the end of the half term.

Spring 1 winner of throwing and catching: Parrots
Spring 2 winner of the egg and spoon race: Parrots
Who will win this term?!
**General reminders**

- Copies of newsletters and important dates can be found on the school website listed below.
- Please do not put peanut butter or hazelnut chocolate spread in your child’s sandwiches for lunch as we have children with severe nut allergies in the school.
- Please do not place your child’s water bottle inside their book bag as it may leak and damage their books. Also note replacement bottles and lids can be purchased for a small fee from the office.
- Please inform your child’s teacher or ring the school office if your child is being collected by anyone different. In addition to telling the class teacher, please always write this information on the ‘home board’ located by the door.
- If your child requires medicine during the school day you will need to fill out a form at the school office. You will need to drop off and collect these medicines yourself.

**Absences**

If for whatever reason your child is unable to attend school for an extended period please remember that simple activities such as reading and writing keywords, playing number based games, writing shopping lists etc are good at keeping your child’s skills sharp and keeping them enthusiastic about learning.

**Dates for the Summer Term:**

- Tuesday 1st May— Class photos
- Monday 28th May—Friday 1st June - Half Term
- Monday 4th June— School Closure
- Friday 15th June—Sports Day
- Saturday 23rd June—Summer Fun Day
- Friday 29th June - Reserve Sports Day

If you have any questions or concerns regarding what will be happening this term then please do not hesitate to speak to your child’s class teacher.

[www.stmarksprimary.net](http://www.stmarksprimary.net)