

St Mary's CE Primary School
Middle Site
Strafford Road
020 8249 6836

Willows, Oaks and Junipers

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the summer holidays. This is an outline of the subjects we will cover this half-term:

Topic Geography	Where would you prefer to live England or Africa? We will be looking at England as an island and comparing it to countries in Africa. We will focus on the key geographical features and lifestyle similarities and differences of these two countries.
Science	Living Things and their Habitats The children will explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. They will identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants. The children will also be planting bulbs ready to observe the growth in the spring term.
Maths	In Maths, the children will be learning about: the place value of each digit in a two digit number and comparing and ordering numbers up to 100; showing that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative), focusing on the recall of number bonds, adding 3 one-digit numbers and completing mental arithmetic questions that focus on addition and subtraction.
English	In English, the children will be learning about instructions and how to write them using the command sentence type. The children will also be writing non-fiction reports about an African animal of their choice.
PE	In gymnastics, the children will travel along different shaped pathways , which eventually they will sequence together. In Games lessons they will be improving their throwing and catching skills and inventing small games.
RE	We will be learning about the following themes; Creation, Harvest and Sukkot.
PSHCE	We will focus on rules, personal goals and discuss the needs of the people around us.
Computing	We are communicators: We will be learning that e-mail can be used to communicate, using the appropriate language and editing skills. We will become aware of e-safety issues using email and ultimately we will write an email.
Art	We will be looking at and exploring art from Africa focussing on patterns and prints.
Music	All of the learning this half term will be focused around the song 'Hands, Feet, Heart' which is South African piece of music. The children will be continuing to develop their knowledge of the interrelated dimensions of music and will be singing and playing instruments.
Trips/Special Events	Tuesday 12 th September – Meet your class teacher Friday 15 th September – African drumming workshop in school Tuesday 26 th September – London Wetlands Centre Tuesday 10 th October – Harvest Festival led by Year 2 at St Mary's Church Wednesday 18 th October – London Philharmonic Orchestra perform the Gruffalo at The Royal Festival Hall

PE will take place twice a week and children will need their full PE kit including named **plimsolls or trainers (ideally trainers)**. Reading at home should continue to be a focus. Children will receive a homework book in the first few weeks of returning to school. Children will also receive weekly spellings.

We really appreciate parent helpers, but in order to plan effectively we find it works best if parents can commit to a regular slot, preferably on a weekly basis. **We will welcome parent helpers after half term.**

Please note: you will not be allocated to your child's class in compliance to the school's parent helper policy.

We are available between 8.15a.m. and 8.30a.m. and after school on most days (apart from Mondays) if you have any queries or issues to discuss. We look forward to a happy and successful Year 2.

Yours sincerely,

Natasha Page (Willows), Ben Egan (Oaks), Helene Curwen (Junipers)