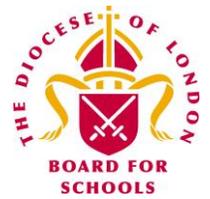




St Mary & St Pancras C. E. Primary School

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Headteacher **Jules Belton**, Deputy Headteacher: **Lucy Heard**
Assistant Headteacher: **Lesley Carneiro**

4th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to you all! Autumn is definitely here!

New STMP school value: *COMPASSION*

The staff and Governors all agreed to adding the value of *compassion* to our existing values of Friendship, Forgiveness, Endurance, Respect and Thankfulness.

There are many examples of compassion in the Bible through the work of Christ, which the children will learn about, as well as relating their understanding of compassion to their own lives and global events.

The school is very proud of its Christian ethos and values, which as you know, in our multi-cultural, multi-faith school, serve us so well.

Changes to Early Reading / Phonics

Those of you who attended Miss Heard's Zoom meetings recently will know all about the national changes to the teaching of reading. We have been preparing for this policy change since January and are gradually rolling it out.

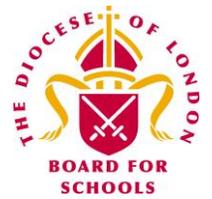
You will notice changes to reading books brought home, which will practise sounds/words taught in school with repetition and fluency. Reading for so many children is about frustration and this is not good for them. So please trust us to give your child the books they need, based on our assessments. Reading with them/hearing them read aloud should be much more comfortable for you and them, rather than struggling to read words, which are too difficult. It is not about challenge but repetition and practise. That's how many of us learned to read isn't it!

Winter Uniform

Please label your children's clothes, especially the younger children.

Cont'd.





Safeguarding

Can I refer you all to the Safeguarding Page on the school website-where you can find lots of helpful information about our safeguarding practice and how you can keep your children safer when they use their devices. I say *safer*, because all devices come with a potential risk. All of the staff recently had Child Exploitation Online training and what we learned was shocking. I'll organise a Zoom meeting for you with our trainer Mary who was really good to listen to but really gave us lots to think about which I think you might appreciate knowing too. I'll let you know the date when I have one.

Additional Bank Holiday-The Queen's Silver Jubilee

The Governors have agreed the 27th May for the additional school bank holiday. This means that school will finish on Thursday 26th May and the children return on Tuesday 7th June.

Thank you all,

Jules Belton
Headteacher

