



**FIRST
STEPS**
@St. Mary's

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Ayr Drive, Jarrow NE32 4AW Tel. 0191 4898336: Fax. 0191 4898338

Acting Executive Head Teacher: Mrs. M. Graham

Acting Head of School: Mrs. A. Tumelty

soffice@stmarysjarrow.co.uk www.stmarysjarrow.co.uk

Dear families,

This half term we will be covering the topic 'Fun at the Seaside' and making links to our own experiences of visiting nearby coastal areas to build sandcastles, see local lighthouses and learn about sea creatures. We will look at key texts such as 'Commotion in the ocean', 'The lighthouse keeper's lunch', 'The singing mermaid' and 'Octopants', to name but a few. We will learn the names and vocabulary used to describe sea creatures such as seahorse, stingray, whale, dolphin, starfish, narwhal and squid and sort these according to their body parts or the way they move. We hope to plan role-play and mark making experiences around pirates, making maps to find buried treasure, drawing underwater animals, collage mermaids and rainbow fish to display in our environment and using the boat in our outdoor area to re-enact adventures and treasure hunts. We plan to take part in the South Tyneside Summer Festival again this year which is scheduled for Saturday 1st July. The theme this year is 'Land, sea and air' which will fit in beautifully with our exploration of the underwater world. We will be making creative models and decorations to display in this event as part of our creative curriculum. If any parents or children would like to accompany us on the day please see a member of staff.



We are also very excited to announce that in keeping with our seaside topic we have a 'beach school' event planned this year on Tuesday 4th July. On this day, parents are invited to bring their child down to our local beach at South Shields and participate in natural art, rock pooling, crafts and games with a lead teacher from West Boldon lodge. More details about this day, including times and costs will be shared very soon.



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Library day will continue to take place on **Tuesday for Red group**, **Wednesday for Green group / Yellow group** and **Thursday for Blue group**. Please make sure that your child comes in to Nursery with their book bag on this day, ready to be changed.

Forest school will continue to take place for **Red** and **Blue** group on Wednesday and for **Green** group on Thursday. For this session the children will need to bring wellies and an appropriate coat for the weather on this day.

Dates for the diary:

- * Friday 16th June: Non-uniform day in Nursery. We would appreciate it if the children could bring in chocolate items to raffle at St. Mary's festival on this day.
- * School Inservice days: Monday 19th June. (Nursery closed)
Friday 7th July. (Nursery closed)
Friday 21st July. (Nursery closed)
- * Nursery Sports day: Tuesday 27th June. 10:00 a.m. for morning children / 2:00 p.m. for afternoon children. Parents of 30 hours children may pick a session to attend.
- * Beach school day: Tuesday 4th July. Parents can bring their children to South Shields beach to participate in fun activities including games, rock pooling and beach crafts based around the theme of 'The singing mermaid.' Please note there will be no session in Nursery as all children and staff will be at the beach. (More details to follow).
- * St. Mary's festival: 6th July. Parents may attend with their children to join in.
- * Teddy Bears picnic fun day and leavers assembly: Tuesday 18th July. 1:30 p.m. for Nursery leavers going to reception class. 2:00 p.m. for families of other Nursery children.
- * Nursery will close for all children at lunch time on Thursday 20th July.
Children who do not stay for lunch must be picked up at 11:45a.m. on this day.
Children who do stay for a packed lunch should be picked up by 12:45p.m. on this day.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs. Walker and the Nursery team.



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