



# St Mark's CE Primary School



## Reception Newsletter

### Spring 1



**Happy New Year!** We hope you had a wonderful holiday and are ready for an adventure-packed term! This half term, our Magic Story Box is back and bursting with surprises. We'll be diving into *The Flying Bath* by Julia Donaldson—a story full of splashes, giggles, and tricky problems to solve. Get ready, because your little adventurers will need their best ideas to help us on this watery quest!

#### Literacy

Last term, we worked hard on holding our pencils correctly and making different movements to help with writing. Now that we've got the hang of that, we're moving on to forming letters and writing simple words. We'll be using the Kinetic Letters handwriting programme to make our writing neat and strong!



#### Phonics

At the end of last half term, we checked what the children remembered from their phonics lessons—and we're so pleased with the progress they've made! Children who practise reading regularly at home are doing an amazing job and are becoming confident readers 😊. After these checks, we'll regroup the children so everyone can keep learning at the level that's just right for them.

**Tip for parents:** Just 10 minutes of reading together each day makes a big difference! Ask your child to tell you about the story or predict what might happen next—it helps build confidence and understanding.



#### Maths

Since September, we've been exploring numbers 1–5. The children are now confident in finding different ways to make these numbers and can work out 1 more or 1 fewer with ease. Next, we'll move on to numbers up to 10! We'll focus on counting, ordering, and comparing these numbers before starting to learn about addition.

**Tip for parents:** You can help at home by counting everyday objects—like toys or snacks—or asking questions such as “What's one more than 7?” These little moments make a big difference!

Our next parent workshop will be focusing on maths. Keep a look out on Class Dojo for more information.



#### P.E.

PE will continue to be on a **MONDAY** this half term.

Please make sure that children are wearing the correct PE kit every Monday and that all jewellery is removed. Children with earrings in will not be able to take part in PE session.



#### Homework

Thank you all so much for your support with ensuring that homework is returned each week. The children really are producing some wonderful work. Please do not worry if their independent work isn't perfect – we love seeing work that is done by your child. Please sit and talk to them about their work and encourage them to do their best but try not to do it for them. 😊