



# FARMER'S CLASS: SUMMER



Dear Parents,

Welcome to our final term of this academic year—can you believe how much the children have grown? It has been such a joy watching them flourish, and we are incredibly proud of everything they've achieved so far.

In Summer 2, we'll swap our storybooks for snorkels and rockets as we explore "Sea and Sky", diving into oceans, cloud-spotting, and even venturing into space. In Summer 1, our theme is "Once Upon a Time...", where we'll step into the magical world of traditional tales, storytelling, and imagination. It's going to be a wonderful way to end the year, full of awe, wonder, and opportunities to reflect on just how far we've all come. Here's a little peek at what we'll be learning across the term:

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This term, we are supporting the children to grow in confidence, independence, and kindness as they prepare for their next steps. We'll focus on helping children understand and express their feelings, resolve simple conflicts, and develop friendships through shared play and cooperation. Children will be encouraged to reflect on their strengths, celebrate their achievements, and take increasing responsibility for their belongings and learning. We'll revisit our Colour Monsters to help manage emotions and begin preparing for transitions, whether that's moving into Reception or onward to Year 1. We'll celebrate all they've accomplished, and support each child to feel proud of themselves.



## Communication and Language

We will continue to immerse the children in rich vocabulary through stories, role play, and conversation. Children will listen carefully to traditional tales, anticipate key events, and use new vocabulary to retell and create their own stories. We'll encourage extended conversations during play and group time, using Makaton and props where needed to support all learners.

In Preschool, the focus will be on developing confidence to speak in small groups, join in with repeated phrases from stories and songs, and begin using simple sentences to express their thoughts. In Reception, children will be supported to speak in full sentences, use connectives to explain their ideas, and retell stories using their own language, drawing on vocabulary linked to our topics and texts.

## Physical Development

Children will be supported to strengthen both their gross and fine motor skills through a range of carefully planned activities. Gross motor development will focus on balance, coordination, and spatial awareness through outdoor play, dance, and obstacle courses. Fine motor activities will include threading, snipping, drawing, and manipulating tools like tweezers and paintbrushes. Reception children will be encouraged to write more independently with accurate letter formation, while Nursery children will continue developing their control and grip through mark-making and construction.

We'll also encourage independence in managing self-care, such as putting on coats and hats and washing hands with increasing independence,



### Literacy

This term, we will continue our daily Read, Write Inc. phonics sessions, with children bringing home materials to support their learning, including reading books. Please ensure their sound book stays in their book bag for use at home and school, and don't forget to update their planner and Reading Challenge squares!

. In Summer 1, we'll explore sea creatures, holidays and even space through non-fiction texts. Reception children will continue daily phonics through Read Write Inc., focusing on blending, segmenting, and sentence writing. We will be exploring both fiction and non-fiction this term. In Summer 2, we'll delve into traditional tales, retelling and innovating stories, and enjoying puppet shows and drama to bring the stories to life. Nursery children will engage with rhyme, initial sounds, and mark-making to represent meaning, developing the foundations for early writing. As always, we'll foster a love of reading through shared stories and Drawing Club adventures.



### Maths

Our maths work will focus on numbers to 20, exploring number bonds, addition and subtraction using practical resources. We'll deepen understanding of patterns, doubling, sharing, and spatial reasoning. Shape, length, height, and capacity will be explored through hands-on activities like potion making, treasure hunts, and building challenges. Nursery children will continue developing early counting and comparison skills through songs, games, and play-based opportunities.



### Understanding the World

In Summer 1, we'll explore the beach, sea creatures, the sky and even outer space. Children will investigate real and imaginary places, talk about how we travel and learn how to care for the Earth. We will also explore seasonal change as we move into summer and talk about seaside holidays and life under the sea. Technology such as BeeBots, torches, and maps will support exploration and early scientific thinking. We will also be planting and looking after the tadpoles from last half term. In Summer 2, we'll learn about life 'long ago' through the lens of traditional tales; looking at castles, kings, queens, and maps of imagined lands.



### Art and Design

Creativity will be central to our learning this term. The children will build castles and rockets, make puppets and masks, and create underwater scenes using a variety of materials and techniques. Music will feature traditional tale songs, sea soundscapes, and simple rhythms. We'll explore storytelling through drama and imaginative play, using props and costumes to support expression and confidence.

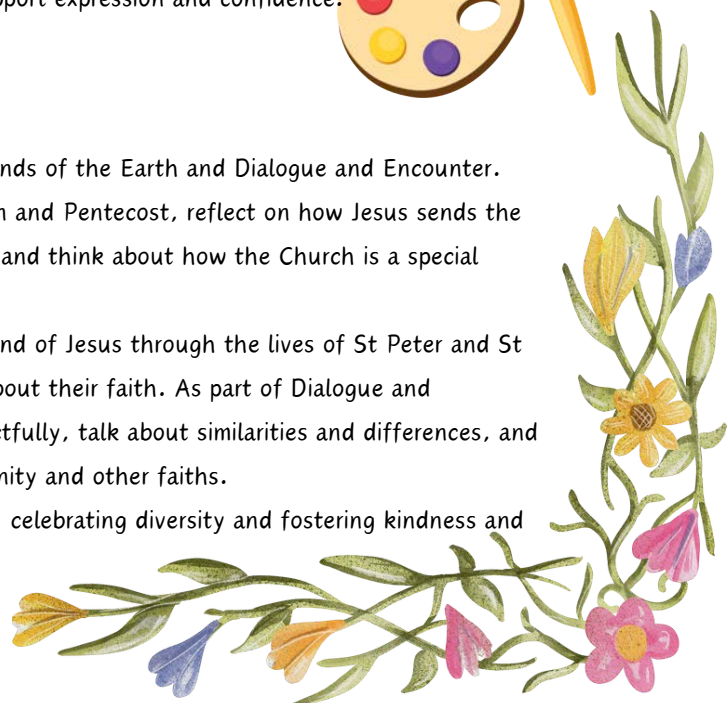


### Religious Education

This term, we will explore the units To the Ends of the Earth and Dialogue and Encounter. We'll learn about the stories of the Ascension and Pentecost, reflect on how Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to help us share the Good News, and think about how the Church is a special place.

We'll also explore what it means to be a Friend of Jesus through the lives of St Peter and St Paul, and hear from someone in our parish about their faith. As part of Dialogue and Encounter, children will learn to listen respectfully, talk about similarities and differences, and encounter different traditions within Christianity and other faiths.

In Summer 2, we will also learn about Islam, celebrating diversity and fostering kindness and understanding.



### Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday: 1pm: Forest School. Children can come to school in non-uniform and bring their waterproofs and wellies in a bag.
- Wednesday: 1pm: PE with Mr Lines  
2:30pm Celebration Assembly. Parents welcome.
- Friday: 1pm Dance. PE kit not required



### Snack and Milk

All children in Farmers Class are provided with a healthy snack each day that is enjoyed in the morning with a story. If your child does not like the fruit that is offered they are welcome to bring a healthy alternative. Please note that crisps, chocolate sweets and biscuits will not be permitted. Please make sure that any snacks are placed in lunchboxes so that we can store them until the children need them. Children are also offered milk until they turn 5 for free. Once your child has turned 5, they can still have milk at snack but it must be paid for by the parents at a subsidised rate. Please contact the school office for more information about how you can pay for your child's school milk should you wish to.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are so lucky to be part of your child's learning journey and look forward to making this term full of stories, sunshine, and celebration!

If you have any questions or need a chat, you can always catch me on Class Dojo or via email at:  
[samantha.vale@stmarysalw.net](mailto:samantha.vale@stmarysalw.net)

Best wishes,

*Mrs Sammie Vale*

Farmer's Class Teacher  
Early Years, English and Humanities Lead

