

## Kington St. Michael C.E. Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Victoria O'Brien, DipTch, BEd, EYPS

The Ridings Kington St. Michael Chippenham Wiltshire SN14 6JG

## An overview for parents of children in Sparrows Class Term 1 — Autumn 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope that you are ready to get back to learning after a relaxing summer holiday. We are so excited to be teaching in Sparrows and are looking forward to a fun filled year. Ms Morrish will be teaching Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Hussey will teach in class on Thursday and Friday. Our Class Teaching Assistant is Mrs Hughes.

We have planned an exciting science-based topic in term 1 all focused around the **Percy the Park Keeper stories** by Nick Butterworth and **The Bee and me** by Alison Jay. We will be learning all about the changing Seasons. We will go on welly walks to the local woods and use our observational skills to identify features of Autumn. We will build on our prior learning on plants and nocturnal animals whilst also developing our fieldwork and map skills in geography. We will finish off our topic with a trip to Westonbirt Arboretum (more details to follow!). Please see the attached Topic Jigsaw for coverage detail of the curriculum.

Being safe at school, home and online are always priorities for us. Being healthy and happy at KSM will be covered in regular PHSE lessons including a focus week at the beginning of the year to develop relationships, rules and routines. Our Christian Value this term is Generosity and our British Value is Mutual Respect. We will be learning about these core values through assemblies and as part of our everyday learning. Assessments will be on going with more formal assessments later in the term. We look forward to meeting with you and your children to set new targets early in Term 2.

Homework will start in the second week and will be given out on Thursday and collected in on the following Monday. There will usually be a spelling / phonics and Maths task set and this will be linked to the learning that has taken place in class that week. In addition, across the school, homework will also include a choice of additional tasks to complete by the last week of term. Thank you for your continued support with reading as part of weekly homework. Please encourage your child to read at least three times a week and make a note in their reading diary. Children will be listened to every week either individually or as part of our guided reading programme (either whole class or group work) and books will be changed **weekly**. If your child finishes their book please encourage them to **re-read** the text as this helps to develop their pace and fluency. Your child will bring home a reading book and also a sharing book for you to read with them. Sharing and reading books (including being read to) is also a key part of developing your child's language and understanding. Asking questions to retrieve facts, encouraging children to make predictions and summarise the text are all key skills that are important to practise and we have included guidance on this inside the reading journal.

Please could all children remember their <u>reading books, diaries and water bottles</u> every day. Coats are also needed every day as children access outdoor provision through their independent learning along with play and lunch time. Please check that children have a full outdoor PE kit with trainers this term, together with named wellies to stay in school. Please ensure that uniform and kit are named.

We are very welcoming of adult helpers in class and would love to hear if you are able to spend any time listening to readers or helping with small groups, this usually works best first thing in the morning or straight after lunch.

We look forward to meeting you all over the next few weeks.

Kind Regards

Jo Morrish and Tracy Hussey

