

St. Mary's C. E. Primary School

Brookpit Lane, Clymping, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5QU

Tel: 01903 714325 • email: office@st-marysclymping.w-sussex.sch.uk • www.stmarysclymping.org.uk



Headteacher: Justin Murray

Thursday 6th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term! We hope you all enjoyed a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Our topic this half term is '**Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**', with a focus on '**Light and Dark**'. We'll be learning and thinking about colours, nocturnal animals, Bonfire Night, Diwali, Advent, and finally Christmas. We'll be sharing the texts *Owl Babies*, *Whatever Next*, *Stick Man*, *The Colour Monster*, and other related books. The children will take part in a range of fun activities linked to these topics. Daily Maths and Phonics sessions will continue alongside this. Attached to this letter is our **topic web**, which highlights the skills we'll be focusing on this half term.

Dress Up in Your Favourite Colour Day

A reminder that on **Friday 7th November**, the children can come to school dressed in their favourite colour to celebrate our Colour Week.

Visits & Visitors

PC Dan Sibun will be visiting **Farrant Class** on **Monday 1st December** to talk to the children about how to keep themselves safe.

We will also be visiting **St Mary's Church** with **Oliver Class** to support our learning about Advent and Christmas. A date will be confirmed for the mid November.

Owls About Town will be visiting us to teach the children all about owls. They will have the opportunity to watch them fly around the hall and even hold one! A separate letter will be sent out shortly with more details.

Christmas Nativity

As part of our learning about the first Christmas, the children will be performing in a **Nativity performance** with Years 1 and 2. Our concert, '**The Big, Little Nativity**', will take place on **Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th December**. Details regarding tickets will be shared nearer the time.

Decorating Afternoon

As a school tradition, we'll be holding a **Christmas Decorating Afternoon**. We invite you to join your child on **Thursday 27th November at 2:15pm** to make a decoration for our classroom. It's a lovely opportunity to come into the classroom and enjoy a Christmas craft together. Details of what we'll be making will be shared nearer the time.

Reminders for the Half Term

Snack Time

Please continue to send in an afternoon fruit or vegetable snack. The children really enjoy this social time, and it keeps them going throughout the afternoon! They're also welcome to bring their own piece for the morning, as some children aren't always keen on the choices provided.

Water

Please ensure your child has a **water bottle** in school every day. A gentle reminder — it should contain **water only**, not juice.

Forest School and PE

Forest School will continue on **Tuesdays** and PE on **Wednesday afternoons**. As the weather gets colder, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for Forest School (hats, gloves, and extra layers are recommended). For PE, children are welcome to wear jogging bottoms.

Phonics

The children will continue to take part in daily Phonics lessons. Please support us by looking at your child's **blue book** with them to reinforce the sounds taught in school. Please also revisit previously taught sounds, as some children are still not recognising all of them. By this stage of the year, children should be able to recognise at least **16 sounds** by sight.

Reading at Home

This half term, we'll be sending home reading books for your child to share with you. Please try to read at least **three times a week** with them. It doesn't have to be for long — even short five-minute sessions are invaluable.

Grid Words

This half term, we'll also be sending home '**Grid Words**' for your child to learn. These will be stapled into their reading record. Once your child knows them, please let us know via **Class Dojo** or write a note in their reading record. We'll then check their progress, and if they're secure, they'll receive the next set of words — and a small prize from the prize bag!

Wow Wall

Please continue to share your child's achievements via **Class Dojo** or by sending in photographs, certificates, pictures, writing, or drawings. Anything that makes your child proud is welcome and celebrated on our Wow Wall.

If you have any queries, questions, or worries, please get in touch via **Class Dojo**, or contact the school office for anything more urgent.

Here's to another happy and fun half term ahead!

Kind regards,
Mrs Anderson, Mrs Ashton and Mrs Mitchell