

YEAR 6 CLASS NEWSLETTER








SPRING 2024






Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to St Mary's, we hope that you and your family enjoyed a wonderful and peaceful Christmas break. The children have settled well back into the school routines and we are looking forward to our next term of learning together. Your support in ensuring that your child completes their Home Learning every week and reads every day with you will continue to help your child to make accelerated progress and reach their full potential.

Curriculum

We will continue our Maths and Literacy learning by building on the key skills that the children learned last term. The title of our topic this term is 'Invaders and Settlers'. Within this topic, we will be learning about 'The Anglo Saxons' (Spring 1) and 'The Vikings' (Spring 2). We will be delivering a lot of the learning in Science, History, Geography, Art and Design Technology through our topics, with links to the learning in Literacy and Maths. Below is an outline of what we will be covering in our curriculum.

<p>English</p> 	<p>In English, we will be reading 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret' by Brian Selznick. While reading this story, the children learn how to write journalistically. They will learn how to write for a variety of purposes: diary entries, a narrative, incident reports and a biography. Before half term, we will be launching our Poetry competition; please encourage your child to think about a poem that they could learn and perform. During the second half of this term, we will be reading the story of 'The Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen. Through reading this book, the children will explore themes around isolation and loneliness and will be able to discuss this within a safe space. We will learn and revise many of the key grammar requirements of Y6 and have opportunity to apply them within short and longer written pieces of work.</p>
<p>Reading</p> 	<p>This term, we will be revising our reading strategies of clarifying, inferring, summarising, making connections, predicting, evaluating and questioning by reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction extracts. We will be reading the books 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl and 'War Horse' by Michael Murpurgo for pleasure. The children will also practice how to support and actively listen to others while reading. Please ensure that your child reads every day for thirty minutes and updates their Reading Journal.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>This half term we will be learning and reviewing our knowledge of percentages, algebra and measure (perimeter, area and volume), ratio and proportion. In the second half of the term, we will be consolidating our knowledge of statistics and the properties of shapes. By the end of the term, the children will be expected to have a good knowledge of decimals, percentages, algebra, ratio and proportion, measure, statistics and shape.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>In RE, we will be learning about 'What do Sikhs Believe', 'How do 'Bishops in Action' help lead the Anglican Church in the Christian faith today?' and 'What happens in Churches during Lent and at Easter?' Within these lessons, we will be considering how aspects of the religions taught can influence the lives of the believers.</p>
<p>Topic</p> 	<p>Our topic for the term is 'Invaders and Settlers'. We will be focusing on the Anglo-Saxons this half term and the Vikings in the next half term. Our Science focus this half term will be linked to our learning about the Anglo Saxons and the Vikings. We will be focusing on the forces of water resistance (boats, oars, rowing) and air resistance (sails). In DT, we will be using our knowledge learnt in Science to create prototype water mills using the following mechanisms: gears, levers and pulleys. Furthermore, in Geography, we will be developing our map and locational skills with relation to the movement of Vikings and their invasion routes; we will learn about different UK regions and how these have changed over history with a specific focus on Germany and countries within Northern Europe.</p>

Values 	We will be focusing on the whole school values of Love and Forgiveness . We will be exploring these values throughout this term and children will have the opportunity to learn how these values can be displayed, referring to examples from Bible stories and influential figures.
Computing 	In Computing, we will be learning about how computer games are made. We will be playing and analysing existing computer games and then we will learn to code some of our own. We will also be linking digital media and digital publishing to other curriculum areas.
Music 	The children will learn a variety of songs. Within our lessons, we will learn to sing songs that are sung in different combinations.
PSHE 	We will be following the Jigsaw scheme of work in our PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education). This term our units are 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me'.
MFL 	We will be studying French as our Modern Foreign Language (MFL). This term we will be learning to say the date in French. By the end of this unit of learning, children should be able to say their date of birth in French.

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2024

- Mon 22nd January – we will launch our Annual Poetry Competition
- Week beginning 22nd January – After School Clubs begin
- Thurs 25th January: Viking Workshop
- Wed 31st January 9AM – Candlemas and Eucharist worship in St Mary's Church
- **TBC Thursday 1st February 1:30 PM– Catford Library visit**
- Fri 9th Feb – Own Clothes £1 (wear RED for Chinese New Year) – Dragon Dancing, Food & Crafts
- **Mon 12th – Fri 16th February – HALF TERM**
- Wed 6th March 9AM – Mothering Sunday worship in School
- Fri 8th March 8AM – Parent's Reading Breakfast in School
- Fri 8th March – Children's Own Clothes Day – dress up as a BOOK CHARACTER for BOOK WEEK
- Mon 11th March – we will launch our Easter Competition to create an Easter Egg
- Thu 14th March – PARENTS' EVENING
- Fri 22nd March – Own Clothes Day (pay £1) and at 3PM Easter Cake Sale and Games to raise money for the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal
- Thu 28th March 1:00PM – End of Spring Term
- Mon 15th April 8:40AM - Children return to school for the Summer Term

Key Reminders

- Please be on time at the beginning (8:40) and end (3:10) of the school day
- Please ring the school office if you have arranged for a new person to collect your child



PE

Please note that the children must bring the correct PE kit (plain navy blue/black jogging bottoms, plain white t-shirt and plain black plimsolls/trainers) to every PE lesson. Our PE coach, Mr Tientcheu, will lead the children in the PE curriculum alongside their teacher. **PE lessons will be on Friday.**



Jewellery

We advise that the children do not wear **any** jewellery to school although plain stud earrings are acceptable. Please bear in mind that if your child is wearing earrings they need to be able to remove them themselves for PE lessons.

Clothing

Please make sure that all of your child's items of clothing are clearly labelled with their names. This applies to all items of school uniform, PE kit and coats. School shoes should be plain and black.

Home Learning

Home Learning will be set on Friday and should be completed by Tuesday. In addition to the learning set, your children should be regularly practicing their times tables, spellings and reading every day.

There is a clear expectation that every child fully completes their Home Learning every week and we will be keeping a record and contacting parents where this is not the case.

Reading

It is vital that your child reads to you every day. Please ensure that they complete their reading journal and bring it into school **daily**. Your child will be given books, which we will aim to change on a weekly basis. If you have any concerns or would like some support with this, then please contact the school.

Appointments - If you have any queries or wish to make an appointment, please ring the School office on 0208 6902613 or email admin@st-marys.lewisham.sch.uk

We greatly value your support with your child's learning.

Miss Egunjobi (Class Teacher)

Mr Diodato (Teaching Assistant)