



Class 1 Newsletter

Term 2

Be the BEST You Can Be

Whatever you do, do with all your heart. Colossians 3:23

WELCOME BACK!

What a lovely, busy term this one is! We'll be getting stuck in to our Nativity rehearsals and look forward to sharing our performance with you at the end of the term. We'll be making things for the Christmas Fayre which will be taking place in December. All of this alongside some great topics and learning opportunities to build upon the successes of last term.

What we are learning

Our topic this term is The Rainbow Bear which is a book about a polar bear by Michael Morpurgo. We will be finding out a bit about where we live and where the Arctic is in comparison. We will be learning about the landscape and climate, the different types of animals that live there and how they are adapted to survive in that environment.

In *English*, we will be reading a great book in literacy called Harold and the Purple Crayon and the children will write their own version of the story. For non-fictional writing, we will be writing a fact file about an Arctic animal. Alongside this we will continue our daily phonics, reading and story time sessions.

We are going to be continuing to develop our understanding of addition and subtraction in *Maths* and later in the term we will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes. Our KIRF for this term is *I know number bonds for each number to 10*.

Our Science topic is Animals including Humans in which the children will learn about physical characteristics that are both shared and different between animal species.

We will be thinking about how we celebrate our journey through life in RE and how Christians celebrate birth - which will lead us nicely into the story of the Nativity.

In our *Computing* sessions this term we are continuing with Purple Mash. It is important that your child learns how to log in independently as we encourage this at school. We are going to spend 3 weeks learning how to create pictograms using the 2Count app before moving on to 'algorithms' - which is following a precise set of instructions to achieve a goal. This is the basis of coding. As always, we will also be talking about keeping safe online when using computers and tablets; such as always asking for permission, ensuring that internet usage is supervised and equipping children to be able to say if they see something they don't like.

We have a great Art topic called Colour Chaos where we will be learning about the primary colours and then mixing them to create secondary and tertiary colours. We will be looking at different artists and how they use colours, tints and shading to create different effects.

We will be considering how to show respect for similarity and difference and understand how these differences make us all special and unique through our Celebrating Difference topic in *PSHE*.

In *Music* we will be learning and singing the songs for our Nativity performance.

Homework: Reading, Phonics and Maths

Reading: Your child will continue to be given two reading books to read with you at home. One of the books they will bring home will be Phonics based and intrinsically linked to your child's level and requirements. The other book will also be of an appropriate level but will be chosen by your child and called a *Reading for Pleasure* book. *Please try to listen to your child read as often as possible and talk about the stories they have read and try to write a comment in or simply sign the reading record whenever you can, so that we know how well your child has read the book and that it needs to be changed.* Reading books will still be changed once a week unless the book has not been read.

Phonics: For the first term we were keen to establish a reading routine, but we will now be sending home some Phonics worksheets weekly that reflect the work we will be doing in class. The children will have a week to complete it and can bring it in whenever it is done.

Maths: Numbots logins will be sent out again so that you can continue to use this at home in short bursts with your children where possible. Also, alongside this newsletter, we are sending home the new KIRF (Key Instant Recall Fact) for this term and it would be great if you can support with this at home. Thank you.

Dates for this term

Mon 15th Nov: Odd Sock Day

Fri 3rd Dec: Mufti Day – donation for the Christmas Market

Wed 8th Dec: Christmas Market

Tues 14th Dec: Nativity

Fri 17th Dec: End of Term 2.30pm

Useful Information

PE: This term, PE will still be on a *Friday*. At St Mary's, our PE kit should include a burgundy (or white) t-shirt, black shorts/joggers and daps/trainers for outdoor activities - trainers may be more appropriate for outside play.

Dance Club starts this term - Monday 3.15-4pm. Children won't need any kit for this, they will just need to take off socks/tights and shoes. Sports club continues on Tuesdays.

Please could all children have a pair of (named) wellies in school so that they can enjoy the school grounds in all weather?

...and finally

Thank you...

...for everyone who has signed up to Class Dojo, it is a very effective way of communicating with you all and posting information and photos of what we have been doing at school

...for continuing to support your child with their reading - it really is the foundation for effective learning through the whole curriculum

If you would like more information about what we will be covering this term and key vocabulary linked to our topics, please look at the Class 1/Term 2 page on our school website.

Please always come and see us if you have any questions and queries and we will do our very best to help.

Mrs Roberts, Mrs Edgell, Mrs Lock