

**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 – *Little Angel Gets Her Wings!* - 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 lovely topics and learning opportunities to build upon the successes of last term.

What we are learning
Our ***topic*** this term is A Street Through Time which is a book that looks at how life has changed throughout History, written by Steve Noon. We will be finding out a bit about where we live and the comparison with the past. We will be learning about the work, survival and lives of the people who lived in different times in History, such as the Stone Age and the Iron Age.

In ***English***, we will be reading a great book in literacy called The Bear and The Piano, and the children will write their own version of the story. For non-fictional writing, we will be writing a fact file about a castle and its key features! Alongside this we will continue our guided 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 developing our knowledge if 2D and 3D shapes. Our KIRF for this term is *I know the multiples of 10 to 12.*

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 continue to explore this in more depth and look at how we can stay healthy.

We will be thinking about *why Christmas matters to Christians* in **RE**– 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 search and share safely online and we will be encouraging this at school – they will search for information, and share their work with class mates to show what they have learnt. 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 will be considering how we can change certain stereotypes that come alongside gender in the classroom within our Celebrating Differences topic in ***PSHE***.

In ***Music*** we will be learning and singing the songs for our Nativity performance of *Little Angel Gets Her Wings*.

…and finally

Thank you...

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

… in advance for support with costumes, practising songs and lines etc for our Nativity *The little Angel gets her Wings*… we can’t wait!!

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 2/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.

Miss Birchall and Mrs Hazelton.

Dates for this term

**Fri 8th November – mufti day (wrap-a-gift)**

**Tues 12th November – Odd Socks day (snit-bullying)**

**Fri 15th November – Children In Need**

**Thurs 28th November - Disco 6.15-7.15**

**Mon 2nd December – Christmas Jumper Day**

**Thurs 5th – Xmas Fayre**

**Tues 10th – Nativity PM**

**Weds 11th – Nativity AM**

**Weds 18th – Theatre**

Useful Information

PE**:** This term, PE will still be on a *Friday*. The focus for this term is Gymnastics.

At St Mary’s, our PE kit should include a burgundy (or white) t-shirt, black shorts/joggers/leggings and daps/trainers for outdoor activities - trainers may be more appropriate for outside play.

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

Homework: Reading, Spellings and Maths

Reading: As before, 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 an accelerated reader book that is based on your child’s reading 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.

In the first term we were able to embed a reading routine and are very grateful for the time you make for reading at home. Already we have established a homework routine too. This mostly has a focus on the work we are doing in class – either a new topic in maths or relevant tricky words (spellings). We will also use this as an opportunity to practise the Common Exception Words from year 1 and 2 (‘tricky words’ – words that can’t be sounding out using phonetics e.g. said, people…) that all children need to learn by heart. Occasionally, when appropriate, they may have maths homework – or even something based on a different subject – but it will be mainly reading based. We endeavour to send new reading books and homework home on Thursdays though occasionally it may be on a Friday. Homework can be returned any day - but by **Thursday** at the latest so new work can be stuck in.

We will be very grateful if you can support your children with their homework where possible or needed as it really does reinforce the learning they are doing in class. Thank you.