



CHRIST CHURCH CofE VC JUNIORS

Value - Engage - Inspire - Create

Head Teacher – Mrs Pippa Osborne

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Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back - we hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. Thank you for your support during 2017 and we look forward to another exciting and successful year at CCJ!

Our topic

Please see overleaf for more about our topic this term – *What did the Romans do for us?* You can also find this information on our Lower Band page on our website. Remember also to check the page for each class where you can find out about what's happening in your child's class. We will also be posting homework online as usual.

Roman Day!

We will be holding a very special 'Roman Day' on Tuesday 23rd January. An ancient Roman will be joining us in school, showing us artefacts from Roman times and teaching us all about what life was really like nearly 2,000 years ago! There will be no cost to parents for the event itself. To make the day as authentic as possible, the first part of this term's home learning is to create a costume to wear on the day (and for the adventurous, a Roman shield to bring along as well)!

Homework

An overview of homework will be sent out on Thursday this week. There will be weekly reading, spellings, a maths task and some termly home-learning projects linked to our topic. Please note that year 3 and year 4 now have separate spellings list, but that spellings will still be taught and tested in the same way as last term.

Swimming

Children who took part in swimming last term will be going to the pool for their final 2 sessions on Wednesday 10th and Wednesday 17th (please note there is no session on Wednesday 3rd January). The next group of swimmers will receive letters in a few weeks' time and they will be starting their swimming sessions after half-term.

Can you help?

To help make the best progress possible, it is important that children are reading as often as possible at home and at school. We are therefore looking for willing volunteers who can help us listen to children read during the school day. Please see Mr Desmond if you are able to offer any time during the week to help. Many thanks.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Lower Band Team

Mr Desmond, Mrs Elliott, Miss Harris, Mrs Knott, Mrs Groves, Mrs Martin, Mrs Pollock, Mrs Payne and Mrs Lovell



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Our topic this term: What did the Romans do for us?

If you were a Roman soldier, what would you think about arriving in Britain? This term, we will be learning about what life was like in Britain before the Romans arrived, discovering more about ancient Roman society and investigating how life changed in Britain after the Roman invasion. On Tuesday 23rd January, children should come to school dressed as Romans for a very special visitor!

Literacy

In the Lower Band this term, we will be focussing on narrative before moving on to writing newspaper reports about the volcanic eruption in Pompeii! Some of our key texts will be *The Captive Celt* by Terry Deary, *Thieves of Ostia* by Caroline Lawrence and *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit.

Maths

This term we will be concentrating on measurement, area, perimeter and fractions. Times tables are a really important foundation for work on fractions so please keep practising the times tables up to 12x12. Year 3s should concentrate on 3x, 4x and 8x if they are not yet confident with these and year 4 should be learning their 6x, 7x and 9s this year. Please let us know if your child needs another copy of their *Times Tables Rockstar* login so they can access this fun resource online at home.

Religious Education

Our focus this term will be on Christianity and key people in the Bible. We will be exploring the stories of Noah and Abraham and reflecting on the vows and covenants that Christians make today.

Personal, Social and Health Education

In PSHE this term, we will be starting with New Year's Resolutions before learning about physical, mental and emotional well-being. We will also be covering e-safety to link with Safer Internet Day.

Art

We will be exploring Roman art and mosaics, using sketching, printing and other techniques to produce some colourful and detailed replicas.

Computing

In computing, we will be learning all about computer networks including the internet and how they can provide multiple services. We will also explore the opportunities networks offer for communication and collaboration and consider how to use search technologies safely, respectfully and responsibly.

PE

Indoor PE this term will be team games, including benchball, and outdoor PE will be hockey, where we will be learning about the principles of attacking and defending during a competitive game. Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school every day as we are unable to lend any PE kits.

Music

We will be exploring Gospel music and practicing using our voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.