



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Rowden Hill, Chippenham, Wiltshire. SN15 2JH

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Headteacher: Mrs Jane Howie-Legg

9th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope that you have recovered from term 1 and are as excited as I am about getting stuck into term 2. Class 6 produced a marvelous class assembly last term, I am very proud of them and I hope that those parents who were able to attend enjoyed the show! This is one of the busiest periods in the year with the build up to Christmas.

We have been focusing particularly on listening skills, following instructions quickly and quietly and focusing attention on learning in term 1. The class are working towards earning enough class cubes for a teddy party. Cubes will be awarded when the whole class behave well and focus well on their learning. Individuals can earn prizes for showing a good attitude to learning as well.

Break time - As the weather gets ever colder, please ensure children have a warm coat for break times. They may wish to bring a hat and gloves which should be kept safely on their pegs. All belonging will need to be named.

Learning this term will include:

English - This term we start reading and exploring a fantastic book called *The Abominables* by Eva Ibbotson. In this heart warming adventure, the fate of a family of Yeti's is left in the hands of a small boy, his sister and a canary yellow refrigeration lorry! We will be using Talk for Writing techniques to learn parts of the story off by heart, study its structure and grammar, and rewrite our own versions. We will focus particularly on adventurous vocabulary, basic punctuation and joined handwriting. Any support you can give at home in these areas will be much appreciated.

Reading books - Please remember that all children should have a reading book in school everyday. Free readers may choose to bring books from home or borrow books from school. It is important for children to read books consistently from beginning to end in order to fully appreciate the structure and meanings, so please avoid chopping and changing from book to book. We will endeavor to hear all children read at least once a week at school, but children should be reading at home every day.

Book change days - Books are now being changed as and when children finished them and hand them in to be changed – there is not particular day for this. Most of them are reading books from home so please do make sure they are changing them regularly.

Maths - We will continue using the new Abacus scheme in maths, as well as new MOT (maths on track) sessions in which children will practice mental arithmetic skills and times tables. These are hugely important skills and underpin the rest of their mathematical understanding. Please continue to learn times tables at home and support with homework where and when you are able.

RE - We begin this term with a focus on remembrance, then exploring saints, saintly behavior and a study of Mary before moving on to consider the time of advent leading up to Christmas.

Science - We will be exploring light in science lessons this term, answering questions about light sources, darkness and reflections. Do talk to your children about light at home and see what they can explain to you!

Topic - We have a geography topic this term looking at the local area, where our school fits in the local area and the land use around us. We will also study maps to see where we fit in the world, the country and within Chippenham.

Homework - Please see the attached homework timetable – it is slightly different to term 1. We will be looking together at homework and marking it as a class to ensure as much learning can be drawn from it as possible – it is doubly important that it be handed in on time so that all children can take part. Spelling tests will be sent home so that you can look together at how well your children are doing!

Stationery and toys - There are an ever increasing supply of fiddly toys, notepads, pencil toppers that appear in pencil cases and on tables. Please encourage children not to bring toys to school as they are a distraction and can be easily lost. Any notepads should be kept in drawers for use a break times.

PE - PE kits and daps/trainers should be in school all week. Please ensure that the PE kit is complete – we have had quite a few children missing a shirt, or a pair of shorts, or sometimes a shoe. All kit must be named.

If you have any questions for us or there is anything you would like to clarify, please don't hesitate to ask.

Mr Dawkins

YEAR 3 HOMEWORK

Autumn 2018

Monday	Grammar Punctuation and Spelling book	Due in on Wednesday
Monday	Spellings Children are expected to practise these at home during the week.	Tested on the following Monday
Wednesday	Maths	Due in on Friday

Reading – as often as possible please ☺

