



Year 1

Newsletter to parents

Spring 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back; we hope you have had a fantastic Christmas holiday and you are all refreshed for a new school year. We would like to let you know what your child will be learning about this term.

Curriculum

In addition to daily English, Maths and Phonics lessons, the children will be exploring a range of topics in the afternoons. In the first half term, they will learn about 'Space' and in the second half term they will be learning about 'Fairy tales'.

English

In English our focus will be for the children to continue to consistently use capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We will also be encouraging the children to use a wide range of vocabulary to support their writing.

Maths

In Maths this term we are going to be focusing on place value, subtraction and time. To support your child at home, you could use some of the websites listed below:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

<http://mathszone.co.uk/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/>

Topic

In Spring 1 we will be focussing on our topic 'Space'. We will be finding information about all the planets by using non-fiction texts and the internet to research. In History we will be researching 'Neil Armstrong' and the iconic moon landing. In Spring 2 our topic will be 'Fairy tales'. We will be learning about a variety of fairy tales using role play to act out different scenes.

RE

In RE we will be focussing on Identity and Belonging, considering rules, morals and what is right and wrong. We will also be looking at Beliefs and Practices including religious festivals, worship, rituals and ways of life.

Important Information

PE

All children will need to have named **indoor** and **outdoor** PE kit with them on PE days (as stated below). Indoor PE kit consists of a white T-shirt, green shorts and trainers and for outdoor PE children will also need jogging bottoms and sweatshirts (as we are still doing outdoor PE during the cold weather).

Long hair needs to be tied back during school time. Earrings need to be removed or taped up for P.E.

PE Days: Wednesdays and Fridays – please keep P.E kits in school **at all times** (take home during school holidays).

Daily Snack and Water Bottles

Children will continue to receive their daily snack of fruit or vegetables. It would be helpful to send your child in with a named water bottle.

Phonics

Each morning your child will have a 20 minute phonics lesson. Later this term the children in will be taught phonics according to the phase they are working at. To help support your child at home, we have set up some links on the St Catherine's website. Please find this on the "Homework Help" page in the "Phonic" section.

www.letters-and-sounds.com

www.mrthornes.com (Video clips showing the phonemes and example words)

The BBC programme Alphablocks is also very good for helping your child pronounce phonemes correctly.

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/alphablocks

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?q=phonics>

Reading

Please try to hear your child read as frequently as possible to encourage fluency in their reading and when you have heard them read please write a short comment or just write your initials so that we know that they have read their books. Please remember as they become more fluent, to discuss the plot and characters as well as decoding the words.

Books will be changed twice a week, decided by your child's class teacher. Children will be heard read either individually or as a group on a weekly basis.