



Excellence Together, Learning Through Faith

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Friday 6th November

Dear Families of Year 2,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely half term break. This next term is going to be a very busy yet exciting one!

Our whole school value for this half term is 'Friendship.' This will link to Remembrance day and then Christmas. We will be learning about the History of Christmas. This will include looking at Christmas traditions and how they began, such as trees, cards and giving gifts, which links well with our RE theme 'Gifts' this term. We will also be getting creative with plenty of Christmas art and trying a new skill- tie-dye!

YEAR 2 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

We are approaching that time of year where we will begin to prepare for Christmas. It will be quite different this year for obvious reasons, but none the less special. Children will perform some Christmas favourites and have a chance to wear costumes. More details will follow shortly.

PE KITS

The children will need both indoor **and outdoor** PE kits in school at all times. They may be taken outdoors for PE on Wednesdays even if the weather is cold, therefore we ask that you ensure your child has an appropriate outdoor PE kit, including joggers, a jumper and trainers.

SCHOOL WEBSITE AND TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter (StMarys916) and check our class webpage for updates about what we have been up to in class.

HOMEWORK

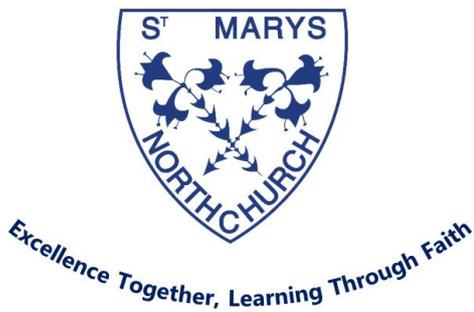
Maths

This half term, I would really appreciate your support in practising mental maths skills at home. Please create frequent opportunities to practise all the different ways to make number up to 20, doubles and halves, counting forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s. Also encourage your child to use these facts to work out problems in their head quickly. These skills are vital in moving forward using formal written methods for addition and subtraction as well as multiplication and fractions. Playing board games and card games are a great, fun way to secure these facts as well as speed up mental recall.

Reading

Children will continue to bring home reading books every week, one of which is appropriate for their reading attainment, and the other which they have chosen from our Reading corner. Please share these with your child and sign the Reading Record card. It is very important that your child reads very regularly at this stage in their learning. A





little every day is perfect. If your child is a fluent reader, it is now time to work on their comprehension skills. Stop after each page and ask them questions; allow them to find words in the text to explain their answer as well as use their phonics to make a sensible guess at unfamiliar words. Children who read at home four times a week will be celebrated with a sticker. Reading books are changed on a Friday but please ensure children have **both books** in school with them **every day**.

Spellings

This half term, we will be moving on from the common exception words and begin to learn about different spelling patterns or sounds. Please practise the spelling patterns with your child at home. This will be the literacy homework, so please make sure that you work with your child to focus on letter formation as well as practising the sentence out loud to check for sense and then editing for punctuation. The children are doing fantastically well with this at school and I am already impressed with the amount of effort and progress they are making.

Google Classroom

We are currently working to set up Google Classrooms for all children. Very soon, we will begin using it to set some home learning tasks. As with anything new, it can take a little getting used to. Please rest assured that we will be offering support to get to grips with it. More details will be heading your way very soon.

A REMINDER THAT YOU CAN GET IN TOUCH WITH US ANY TIME...

If there is something worrying you about your child's well-being or education then I am keen to help. Please *do* email me using our class email address if you have any questions or worries.

Many thanks

Miss Gray

An overview of learning for this half term in Year 2

Understanding English, Communication and languages (Speaking & Listening, Reading, Writing, MfL)	Mathematical Understanding	Religious Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - exploring stories- traditional stories and modern versions. Rapunzel. - writing in role as a character - discussing and retelling the story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - counting forwards and backwards in equal steps, in particular 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s. - recall addition and subtraction facts fluently within 20 and derive and use facts to 100. - representing, ordering and comparing numbers using the symbols = < and >. - measures- mass, height, length, capacity. 	<p>The theme for this half term will be Christmas and Gifts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - exploring why we give people gifts at Christmas - looking at traditions - the story of the Wise Men





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<p>- instructional texts: using appropriate language to give instructions</p> <p>-poetry based on a theme: Christmas poetry; reading, exploring and writing our own.</p> <p>Grammatical skills, handwriting, phonics, spellings and reading will be taught daily within whole class sessions</p>	<p>-add and take away 2 digit numbers.</p> <p>-using the inverse to solve addition and subtraction missing number problems.</p> <p>-finding different combinations of coins to make an amount.</p>	<p>- why do Christians go to Church at Christmas?</p>
<p>Scientific and Technological Understanding (<i>Science, Design & Technology</i>)</p>	<p>Historical, Geographical and Social Understanding (<i>PSHE, History, Geography</i>)</p>	<p>Computing (<i>taught by Mrs Archbold</i>)</p>
<p><i>Science (taught by Mrs Archbold)</i></p> <p>The children will be continuing with the topic Animals, including Humans.</p> <p>-To investigate whether taller children have a bigger hand span. Gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.</p> <p>-To investigate whether chn with the biggest hands can grab the most sweets. ---Gathering and recording data to help in answering questions.</p> <p>- Classifying & Grouping- Sort food pictures into a food groups.</p> <p>Collecting and presenting data based on food preferences.</p> <p>DT- sewing a Christmas stocking.</p>	<p>History:</p> <p>-looking at Christmas through the ages and the History of Christmas traditions, including trees, cards and gifts.</p> <p>- making our own Victorian Christmas card.</p> <p>PSHE:</p> <p>Celebrating Difference</p>	<p>Purple Mash Spreadsheets</p> <p>-Using 2Calculate to lock, move cells, speak and count tools to make a counting machine.</p> <p>-Using the totalling tools.</p> <p>-Using a spreadsheet for money calculations.</p> <p>- Using the 2Calculate equals tool to check calculations.</p> <p>- Using 2Calculate to collect data and produce a graph.</p>
<p>Understanding physical Development, health and wellbeing. (<i>Physical Education, Personal and Economic Wellbeing</i>)</p>	<p>Understanding the Arts (<i>Art and Design, Music, Drama, Dance</i>)</p>	
<p>Games will take place every Wednesday afternoon. This half term the unit will focus on aiming through throwing and kicking. Inventing a game and teaching it to a partner or group.</p> <p>Dance will be taught every Monday afternoon, focussing on travelling and movement at different speeds and directions, and keeping in time to a rhythm or piece of music.</p>	<p><u>Art and Design</u></p> <p>-tie-dye..</p> <p>- to design, make and evaluate our own Victorian Christmas card.</p> <p>-Christmas art.</p> <p><u>Music</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how to control and hold a steady beat - how to recall and copy rhythm patterns. - how to create an accompanying beat for a chant or song. 	

