

St Mary's C of E Primary School
New Road
Northchurch
Berkhamsted
Herts
HP4 3QZ

Tel: 01442 389040 Fax: 01442 390589
Email: admin@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Lynne Osborne

Friday 6th November

Dear Families of Year 1,

I hope that you have had a restful half term and are now ready for another busy few weeks! It was lovely to speak to you at Parents Consultations last half term and inform you how well the children are settling into Year 1. They have amazed me with the progress that they have already made and how hard they have worked and I know that they will continue to impress me as the year goes on.

This half term is going to be a busy one! We will be looking at lots of different celebrations, starting with Bonfire Night and leading on to Hanukkah and obviously Christmas.

In Literacy we will be starting with the story '*How goes the work Farmer Duck?*' by Martin Waddell and continue practising writing sentences as well as using our ever widening knowledge of phonics to write independently. Phonics and letter formations will continue to be taught in small groups using the Read, Write Inc materials. We will also be looking at poetry based on themes such as 'Fireworks', 'Food' and 'Christmas' as well as reading traditional Christmas stories.

In Maths we will start by focusing on some more basic number skills and problem solving using mathematical thinking mainly working with numbers up to 20. We will be practising counting, estimating, doubling and halving and securing the strategies we have been using in class for addition and subtraction. We will be then be moving on to describing 2D and 3D shapes.

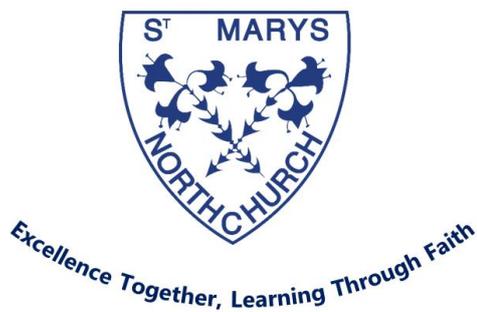
PE KITS

This half term, the children will continue to have PE on Tuesdays and Fridays but from now on, they will be changing into their PE kits for lessons. Therefore, please ensure that your child has a full kit, including shorts, t-shirt, joggers, jumper and trainers. The kit will be left in school. **Please make sure all P.E. kit is clearly named.**

HOMEWORK

As last half term, the most important thing that I would like the children to do at home is to continue to read **daily** for around **10 minutes**. Each week, the children will take home a reading book which will be appropriate for their reading level. The book will match the sounds learnt at school and is phonetically decodable. This will be changed on a Friday but please ensure that the reading book is put back into the book bag each day as we will also be doing regular individual reading at school. I would really appreciate your support by encouraging your child to read daily, even when they may be tired and reluctant! Please





also spend time reading stories to your child and modelling a love of books and an enjoyment of reading. This is vital in their development as a 'reader'. Please make sure that you record your daily reading in the yellow reading record book so that we can keep track of their reading. Many children are still not receiving their sticker as the reading is not recording- I know lots of you are doing it, but we do like to see the evidence!

New this half term, I have provided a 'menu' of tasks for you to do over the course of the half term. The activities are designed to be fun and interactive and to give you family time as well as find out a little more about what they are learning in school. I really hope that you enjoy doing these with your child. You can do as many of the tasks as you wish, and in any order you prefer. Please take photos and stick them into the homework book and I will make time in the week to share some of the lovely things you have been doing.

On a weekly basis, alongside the daily reading, there will be a short spelling task or handwriting pattern as well as a maths task based on our learning of that week. The homework should not be a chore for the children and should not take more than 15 mins.

CLASS NOTICE

Forest School:

When the weather permits, we will be going to Forest School most **Thursday afternoons**. Please ensure that your child has suitable clothing, including wellies each week.

Christmas:

Christmas celebrations will obviously not be quite the same this year and we won't be doing the usual nativity with Year 2, but please don't worry, we will do our very best to make it special for the children. They will be preparing for some kind of performance which will be shared via video. More details will follow soon!

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.

A REMINDER THAT YOU CAN COME AND SEE US ANY TIME...

If there is something worrying you about your child's education then I am keen to help. If you have any queries or would like to arrange an appointment to speak to me, please email me on our class email:

year1@stmarys916.herts.sch.uk

Many thanks,

Mrs Zimet





Excellence Together, Learning Through Faith

An overview of learning for this half term in Year 1

Understanding English, Communication and languages (Speaking & Listening, Reading, Writing, MfL)	Mathematical Understanding	Religious Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words - read accurately by blending sounds - read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge - re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading - develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding - participate in discussion about what is read to them - spell words containing phonemes already taught and common exception words - name letters of the alphabet in order - sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly - begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place - write sentences by saying out loud what they are going to write - sequencing sentences to form short narratives - discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils - read aloud their writing clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - read and write numbers from 1 to 20 in numerals and words - identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line, and use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least - count, read and write numbers to 20 in numerals - read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition, subtraction and equals signs - represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20 - add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20 including 0 - solve one step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations and missing number problems - name and describe 2D and 3D shapes. 	<p><u>Light</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remembrance – Poppy wreaths (Peace) - poppy wreaths and Peace prayer - celebrations of light - why light is important – feelings - Hanukkah - Hanukkah assessment and reflection writing - Advent - first Christmas - First Christmas writing





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Scientific and Technological Understanding <i>(Science, Design & Technology)</i>	Historical, Geographical and Social Understanding <i>(PSHE, History, Geography)</i>	Computing
<p>D&T</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - designing and making Christmas cards and calendars <p>Science – Seasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observing seasonal changes in the world around us - Observing weather and how day length varies across the seasons 	<p>History</p> <p>Learn about events beyond living memory that are significant nationally and globally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bonfire night - Hanukkah - Christmas <p>PSHE – Celebrating difference-</p> <p>Recognising difference between people in our class. To explain what bullying is. To know who to talk to if I'm worried. To know how to make friends To explain how I'm different from my friends.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use simple tools and features of a paint program to illustrate themes and ideas, including: brush size and type, spray and fill effects, use of colour, simple shapes - Develop confidence in using a range of methods to create words and images onscreen
<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>Outdoor games will be taught on a Tuesday by Miss Gill and will focus on team games and skills</p> <p>Gymnastics or Dance will be taught every Friday by Miss Gill.</p>	<p>Drama</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - linked to Literacy texts - performing in Christmas performance. <p>Art work linked to Literacy texts and ICT and taught through R.E., History and D&T</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use a range of materials creatively to design and make products - Develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space <p>Music - Music Express</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long and short sounds - Bonfire night - Fade or float - Rippling rhythms - Ho! Jack Frost - Sounds of winter 	

