



ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
The Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust

Providence Way
Baldock
Hertfordshire
SG7 6TT

Head Teacher: Ms A. Hanou

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Year 1 Newsletter
Spring Term 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break and wish you a very Happy New Year. As we start a new term, we thought you would like to see an overview of the curriculum we will be studying before Easter.

English: In English we will be looking at the structure of poems and reading, writing and performing them. The children will also be looking at contemporary fiction that reflects their own experiences as well as writing instructions and reports.

Maths: This term the children will be consolidating their counting skills to 100 and looking at the place value of numbers to 20. We will also be introducing the concept of odd and even numbers and working on doubling and halving amounts. We will continue to study 2-D and 3-D shapes and measurement, including time and weight. We will also be looking at coins and combinations to 20p. The children's problem solving skills will be developed further using one step problems that involve addition and subtraction.

Science: We will begin by looking at the seasons and considering the weather associated with them as well as investigating weather patterns. The children will then learn about 'Everyday materials', comparing their properties and uses.

History: Our History topic this term is 'Sea and Space'. We will start by producing a timeline to support the children's understanding in the passing of time and sequencing events. We will then be looking at the lives of the Great explorers Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. The children will be exploring and comparing the life experiences and journeys of the explorers through the use of drama, art and design and written tasks.

We will be linking the topic with Science and Art by looking at materials used to build Neil Armstrong's space ship and creating portraits of famous faces.



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ICT: We will continue our work from last term, as well as developing the children's computer skills.

PE/Games: Sessions for this term are on a **Thursday** and **Friday**.

Boccia (a form of bowls) will be taught on Thursdays in the first part of the term followed by sitting volleyball in the later part. Tag rugby will be on Fridays.

PE will be taught by Mr. Baker. For Friday tag rugby sessions the children go outside and they will therefore need to wear trainers. You will also need to provide tracksuit bottoms and a navy jumper for the children to wear outside.

Please make sure all kit is labelled and if your child has borrowed an item of clothing from us and taken it home, please make sure it is returned.

Reading: It is vital that the children are reading with an adult at home as much as possible. During the summer term the children will be taking part in the Phonics screening test (more information will be provided soon), which is a national test to assess the children's reading abilities. We therefore encourage you and your child to take part in a reading activity for at least 10 minutes every day. This can be reading their school book, reading a book from home, reading a book from the library or playing some of the phonics games and activities on the phonics play website that they did for homework during the Autumn term.

Homework:

You should have received this term's homework tasks already. Please can I remind you to send your children's folders in on a Friday ready for marking.

The homework grids are a great preparation for Year 2 so we do encourage you to complete as many of the tasks as possible.

Spelling:

You should have also received the spellings for this term. They consist of words with a particular spelling pattern which your child will be able to apply to the words in the list. They will also have two tricky words included each week which will not follow the spelling pattern. If you could support your child in practising these spellings weekly, we will be testing the children on these words on a Friday. Your support with this will be greatly appreciated.



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We are working to help the children become more independent with regard to their academic work and various personal skills, such as taking responsibility for their belongings and undertaking routines independently. Therefore we ask that you continue to let the children come into the classroom on their own so they can complete the morning tasks independently. I have spoken to the children to reiterate that once they have come through the door they are in our care and must stay in the classroom. Please ensure your child has everything they need before they come in. As we move through the year, this becomes even more important as preparation for Year 2.

If there is anything you need to discuss with me regarding your child, please send a note in with them or see me after school when the children are dismissed.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mrs Tilli
Class Teacher