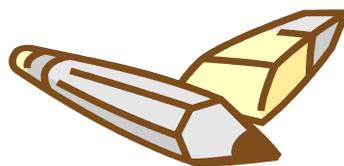


ST. MARY'S CE SCHOOL, PUTNEY
YEAR 2 BRIEFING LETTER TO PARENTS -JANUARY 2017



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back - We hope you all had a fun and relaxing Christmas and Father Christmas was good to you! Many, many thanks for your kind Christmas cards and gifts, we are truly touched by your generosity and thoughtfulness.

We have another enjoyable and busy term ahead of us. The programmes of study for this half term are as follows:

Maths

Counting, properties of numbers and number sequences. Place value, ordering, estimating, rounding. Understanding + and -. Mental calculation strategies (+ and -). Money and 'real life' problems. Making decisions, checking results. Telling analogue and digital times to the nearest half hour, recognising right angles, clockwise and anticlockwise turns and measuring weight in kg and g.

English

Fiction: Traditional stories; stories from other cultures; stories with predictable and patterned language. Power of Reading work this half term will be based around the author Dick King-Smith and we shall be reading "The Hodgeheg" and "George Speaks". Non-fiction: Dictionaries, glossaries, indexes and other alphabetically ordered texts.

Religious Education

Our topic for this half-term is the **What Responsibility Has God Given People for Taking Care of Creation?** In this topic we shall be exploring the bible story of Creation and reflecting upon how it affects the way we look and think about the world and how we should care for it.

Science

Our Science topic will be **The Earth - Our Home** in which we shall learn about animal and plant habitats and discover how plants and animals are adapted to their environments. We have booked an exciting trip to Kew Gardens for Wednesday 1st February where we shall have a guided tour of the plant environments.

ICT: Finding Information. Following straightforward lines of enquiry and choosing the most appropriate search techniques for their purposes.

PSHE: Dreams and Goals! This topic focuses primarily on the key aspect of motivation and self-awareness: stay motivated when doing something challenging, keep trying even when it is difficult, work well with a partner or in a group, learn with others, have a positive attitude, help others to achieve their goals, work hard to achieve their own dreams and goals and celebrate our achievements.

French: We shall continue to reinforce the vocabulary and expressions learnt in the Autumn term including *Comment ça va? Comment t'appelles-tu? Quel âge as-tu?* with responses, counting to 20 and colours. We shall then introduce clothing vocabulary and French games.

Art: We shall be focusing on printing techniques and creating pieces of artwork inspired by the topic studied in class. We shall be creating simple monoprints and exploring how colour choices can affect a piece the final look. We shall make a simple printing block with press print and explore blending two colours. We shall also create polyprints and study pattern.

PE: Year 2 will be participating in gymnastics lessons on a Tuesday with Mr Ellis and on a Friday with Mrs Livingstone. This half term pupils will focus on balance and movement. They will learn to hold a range of balances and link these to create a sequence. In addition the class will practise a half-turn jump, landing with control and basic rolls. Skills will be applied through a range of co-operative games.

Music: Music will be taught by Mrs Le Prevost. Linking in with our class topic of **The Earth, Our Home**, we will be exploring timbre and texture to understand how sounds can be descriptive using our natural environment as inspiration. We will be creating, performing and evaluating descriptive instrumental music inspired by British myths and legends in different environments, e.g. in lakes, mountains and forests. Then we will be using animals as our theme to link animal movement with pitch movement, to develop their understanding and recognition of changing pitch.

Final Comments: Y2 Homework routines will continue as before. Please remind children that homework should be completed in pencil and *named*.
Cooking will continue each month. Any parent wishing to help out with cooking or supporting trips, please put a note in the PACT book.
Our topic 'Exit Point' (open classroom), will take place Thursday 9th February at 2.30 p.m. All parents and carers are welcome.

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us in person or via the PACT book. Once again a huge thanks for all your support and encouragement with your child.

Wendy Livingstone and Tina Thomas

