



## St. Mary's C.E. Primary School

Year Four  
Spring Term 2  
February 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed the half-term holiday. We begin the half term celebrating 200 years of St. Mary's CE Primary School with a very action packed 'Bicentennial Week' culminating in our Bicentennial Service at St. Mary's Church on 1st March 2019.

The class will then continue with the very popular unit of work on 'Chocolate' for the next two weeks including the highly anticipated trip to Cadbury's World on 14<sup>th</sup> March - very exciting! We would also like to invite you in for our Exit Point and an opportunity to see your child's work on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 9.15 - 9.45 am. We then move on to a new topic - 'Living Together'. This theme will mostly be taught through Geography, History, Art and Computing. The topic will kick off with a variety of team building challenges for the children to complete which we are sure they will find fun and entertaining!

Please find below an outline of the curriculum that will commence this new half-term:

### **English:**

We will be finishing the much loved 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' and then move on to our next *Power of Reading* text, called 'Hot Like Fire' by Valerie Bloom. This is a book full of poetry. The poems are a wonderful mix of Standard English and dialect that are a delight to hear and read. The children will have the chance to read the poems and explore the language used. They will then be given opportunities to write their own poetry pieces. As always, the development of descriptive writing will be a key focus. Grammar work this term will focus on their understanding of fronted adverbials, and the use of conjunctions to extend sentences. Skills in comprehension will continue to be developed through their *Guided Reading* sessions. It is important that all children are listened to when reading at home to help maintain their fluency, but more importantly for you to question them and provide discussion about what they are reading

### **Maths:**

The areas of learning in Maths will be: Number and place value; Problem solving, reasoning and algebra; mental addition and subtraction; Written addition and subtraction; mental multiplication and division; Written multiplication and division; Measurement; Fractions, ratio and proportion; and Geometry: properties of shapes.

## **RE**

We have already begun our topic on Judaism - *What Does It Mean to Be a Jew?* - and the children will continue this half term by discovering the origins of Judaism, making their very own models of a Torah and Mezuzah, exploring the significance of the Passover celebrations and learning about the Ten Commandments. We are planning a visit to Wimbledon Synagogue soon after the Easter holidays. More details will follow nearer to the time and we shall be grateful for your support in accompanying the children on this trip. Towards the end of term, our Easter topic will be *How does Holy Communion build a Christian Community?* We shall be reflecting upon: what Jesus said and did about Communion and how Christians remember this today; how and why Christians share in the Body and Blood of Jesus, particularly at Church; how the act of sharing Communion demonstrates God's Peace.

## **Science:**

For the Chocolate unit of work the children will be finding out about the ingredients in chocolate, if chocolate causes tooth decay and the importance of eating a healthy and balanced diet.

## **International:**

For the Chocolate unit of work the children will be finding out what fair trade chocolate is, what other fair trade products there are and how important chocolate is.

## **Geography:**

For the Living Together unit of work the children will be finding out: how our school meets the needs of the community; about the buildings and services in our local area; about communities in a different country; how to identify the places and areas of interest in our local area

## **History:**

For the Living Together unit of work the children will be finding out about: the history of our school and its community; about someone who has been significant to the local community; about a historical event that has had an impact on a community.

## **Computing:**

In our computing lessons the children will be finding and using stored information from a variety of sources. They will be using computing opportunities to support and present their work in the other subjects. They will work with text, images, graphs and tables.

## **PSHE:**

This half-term the class will look at a unit of work called 'Healthy Me'. This will look at making healthy choices such as eating a balanced diet and being physically active. The unit will also explore friendships and knowing how to be a good friend, keeping safe and keeping calm in difficult situations.

### **French:**

In French this half term the children will:

Understand use and practise words for hobbies and activities.

Understand what sports and activities people like, or do not like. Express opinions about activities using j'aime, je n'aime pas, je déteste and j'adore.

Learn about some customs and traditions related to Easter in France and "Poisson d'Avril"

Learn some Easter related vocabulary.

### **Art:**

In the art-room this half-term we will create observational still life studies drawings and paintings of a variety of seasonal flowers and vegetation. Year 4 will learn to mix cool colour tones in their work.

We will draw look at the work of artists across the centuries: Judith Leyster (17th);

Jan van Huysum (18th); Henri Fantin-Latour (19th); Andy Warhol (20th); Gillian Ayres (21st).

As the first half of the summer term is short we will start planning and preparing our canvases for the FOSMS Summer Art Exhibition.

### **Music:**

This half term we will be learning a gospel song to develop our singing techniques, particularly focusing on the blues/gospel style. We will be introduced to improvisation and how we can use our voices to improvise as well as on tuned percussion using the pentatonic scale. This will lead to creating a performance which we will record so that we can evaluate how we did.

### **PE:**

Year 4 shall spend their Monday morning lesson having an introduction to gymnastics in the hall with Ms McCrone. We shall cover a variety of gym skills including; balancing alone and with a partner, forward rolls, log rolls and backward rolls. Towards the end of the term skills such as cartwheels and headstands shall be covered with the final two weeks' children working on creating mini sequences to include all of these. On Thursday's Y4 shall continue handball with Mr Naughton. Here they shall continue to learn to pass, send and receive effectively, moving in and out of space, basic marking and then small sided games at a pace that suits them. For the remainder of the half term, Mr Naughton shall introduce Tennis, developing hand to eye coordination, timing and technique covering basic shots and competitive rallies.

On alternate Tuesday mornings Y4 shall take part in Yoga with Ms McCrone.

These sessions are designed to draw inner focus, confidence, both physical and mental strength as well as teaching the children tools to cope with anxiety (which is on the rise) in their busy lives. The sessions shall encourage individual and pair work to build friendships, fun and respect for one another.

YEAR 4 HOME LEARNING

**Maths home learning will be sent out every Friday and should be returned the following Wednesday**

Each task should take on average 30 - 40 minutes.

Maths home learning should be done in the relevant homework book taken home by your child each week, the emphasis being not just on completion, but also neatness and presentation skills! Any worksheets and additional paper should be carefully trimmed and stuck neatly into the homework books please. Encourage your child to use all pages - do not waste space!

Spellings: Spelling cards given out at the start of each half term. Weekly spelling test on Friday.

Times Tables: Please practise regularly for a test every Monday - more info to follow.

Reading: Daily - to be listened to by an adult for at least 10 minutes each evening - if possible.

**Project: History of Putney - Our Local Community - more information to follow!**

**All projects to be completed by Wednesday 10th April**

We are all looking forward to a very busy and exciting half term ahead, thank you for your continued support.

Please do not hesitate to contact us through the PACT email system or after school in the playground. Spring Progress Meetings are on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March, we look forward to meeting with you then.

Kindest regards

Amanda Bishop

Tina Thomas

Irene Ford