

ST. MARY'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



BICENTENARY 1819-2019

Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents

Spring 1, January 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! The students made great progress last term and I cannot wait to see what they can achieve this term. We have an exciting half term planned.

I'm sure you are well aware of the usual class routines and homework schedules, but here is a reminder. As we are half way through Year 5, I feel it is your children's responsibility to remember to bring the correct kit to school for their lessons. However at times, a gentle reminder of this may be necessary.

Reading

Guided Reading - This will happen once a week and your child will be part of a reading group. The group will read and discuss a book and complete focused learning tasks based around the text. The children know that any assigned work not completed during class time must be completed at home.

Independent Reading - Throughout each day there are independent silent reading sessions where children will read a book of their choice. In Year 5 children are expected to make their own choices about the material they read based on interest and ability. Children are also expected to read at home every night for at least 15 minutes. It is their responsibility to return finished reading books to the appropriate place on the bookshelf and select another book. Please encourage your children to speak with me if they are struggling to find a suitable book.

Home Learning

Maths and English home learning should be done in Maths or English home learning books, or on sheets and neatly stuck in where appropriate.

There may occasionally be a topic-based work to reinforce the work done in class.

Maths: Set on Friday to be handed in on Wednesday.

English: Set on Friday to be handed in on Wednesday.

Spellings: Word lists are given at the start of the term - tested on Friday.

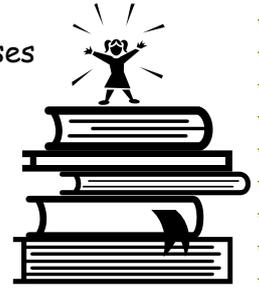
Reading: Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening.

Times Tables: Tested on Friday.

Home learning will not be set during holidays.

Here is an outline of the topics we will be covering within each subject area:

English: In English we will be following the 'Power of Reading' scheme which uses a text-centered approach to teaching reading and writing. Our text this half term is the narrative poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. We will be reading and analysing the poem, looking particularly at the use of figurative language as well as the meter and rhyme. We will also be writing some of our own poetry in a range of styles. These tasks will incorporate writing skills such as accurate use of punctuation, sentence types and descriptive language, supported by the National Curriculum.



Maths: In Maths lessons we will be trialing a new scheme, White Rose Maths, which follows a block approach that differs from the Abacus spiral approach that we have been using. During this half term we will focus on multiplication, division and fractions. We will be working to improve reasoning skills and procedural fluency in order to consolidate skills.

Independently, children should be working to ensure that they know all multiplication and related division facts to 12.

French: Madame Goalen will provide specialist French teaching. The children will be continuing to build on their vocabulary, as well as, speaking and listening skills.

Computing: Throughout the term we will continue to reinforce general skills, such as file management, touch typing and e-safety. In addition, this term we will be introducing the children to the basics of programming using the Python platform.

RE: We will explore how the Christian message has survived 2000 years. We will discuss the importance aspects of the message and its relevance to our current lives. Towards the end of the half term we will discuss how faith and the Christian faith can work together.

ART: In the first half of the spring term Year 5 will create prints and patterns using complementary colours. In the latter part of this half-term will also revise the proportions of a face to prepare for the Bicentennial celebrations immediately after our February break.

Music: This half term our activities will be centered around Folksong and Fantasy as we build up to our trip to the Barbican to hear the London Symphony Orchestra in early March. We will be learning participation songs for the concert and listening to music by both well-known and not so well-known classical composers of these genres, including Grieg. The range of moods and styles will inspire us to sing, perform and compose using new techniques and structures.

PSHE: We will use the Jigsaw's scheme, 'Dreams and Goals.' We will look at our aspirations and goals for the future. We will try to understand how to handle and learn from both

success and failure. We will also learn to appreciate how our dreams and goals differ from one another and respect these differences.

PE: Year 5 shall spend their Monday afternoon lesson working with Ms McCrone this term, continuing their learning and understanding of hockey skills and game play. We shall cover dribbling, passing, control and possession techniques which shall filtrate into mini game situations, where tactics for the both the individual and team shall be applied. This should further guide and push them to understand the role of positions and the effectiveness of these in game play. On Thursdays Y5 shall start handball with Mr Naughton. Here they shall improve their techniques of passing, sending and receiving effectively, movement in and out of space, marking techniques and then small sided games which shall then grow into competitive matches. Within these sessions, the children shall be encouraged to think tactically about their game play.

On alternate Tuesday mornings Y5 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 between peers.

Please ensure your children have a full PE kit, clearly labelled. We will endeavor to always go outside for lessons, children need to have the appropriate kit for the weather. Children should come to school wearing their uniform and will get changed into their P.E. kit for the lesson.

Topic: Our topic, 'Investigators', is a science-based topic. We will be finding out about several ways to investigate in science, how to make sure our investigations are well designed and reliable, ways to collect, record, interpret and present our findings and about several materials and their properties. These skills will be learnt at we try to solve our own St Mary's crime.

I would like to thank all of you for the continued support you provide by reading with your children, helping them with their spellings, home learning, baking cakes to raise money for our class needs and all the other little things that you do to ensure your child's time in year 5 is as successful as possible. Keep up the good work!

During the Spring 2 half term we have a number of exciting activities planned for students and parents to celebrate our bicentenary! For more up-to-date information please see our social media pages. <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS>
<https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>

Please do not hesitate to contact me through the PACT system or after school if you have any queries or concerns. If you prefer, you may also speak with Miss Overton.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Courtney Rinaldi