



Year 2 Newsletter

November, 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new half term. This newsletter will give you information about some of the things that your child will be learning about. We hope that you find it helpful but please do not hesitate to ask us throughout the year if you ever have any concerns or questions.

Religion Topic

- **'From Advent to Christmas.'** We will be exploring how the Bible portrays the birth of Jesus and how we prepare for Christmas during the season of Advent.
- **Key vocabulary:** Christmas, Advent, preparation, Gospel, Prayer, Christmas (the Mass of Christ), Messiah, Incarnation, saviour, Luke, Gospel, author, audience, community, midrash

Reading

Please continue to hear your child read every evening if possible, yet spending time asking your child questions about what they have read. Please continue to use the reading record to communicate how your child is getting on and any information that you feel we should know. We will be making comments in this book as a way of communicating with you about the progress of your child. Key questions you could ask your child when reading are:

- What does an author/illustrator do?
- What are we going to do if we get stuck on a word?
- Why are some words written in bold?
- Can you describe the main character?

Computing

We will be continuing with our topic: We are astronauts.



The children will be programming characters and objects to move around the screen using Scratch. Scratch is free to use and can be played at home with an adult: <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Literacy

This half term we will be exploring Toy Story. We will be describing the characters using adjectives. We are continuing to develop the elements of good writing (Vocabulary, Conjunctions, Openers and Punctuation).

This includes:

- Full stops and capital letters for every sentence.
- Using words such as **and**, **but**, **when**, **so** and **because** in the middle of sentences, to give more information (conjunctions).
- Using a broader range of vocabulary (wow words e.g. sparkly, beautiful, delightful, mysterious, gloomy...).
- Exciting openers (Suddenly, Quickly, Out of the corner of her eye, Soon, In a flash, Sneakily...).
- Joined handwriting.
- Writing in paragraphs.

We practise our phonics daily with the children. Here are some fun and useful websites if you wish to play some phonics games with your child at home:

- 1) <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html>
- 2) <http://www.galacticphonics.com/>

Numeracy



This half term we are exploring place value. The children will be learning to order numbers within 100 and will be learning to count in steps of 10 from any number. We will also be exploring subtraction and division strategies with the children. The children will practise subtraction to 20 to become increasingly fluent in deriving facts such as using $3 + 7 = 10$; $10 - 7 = 3$ and $7 = 10 - 3$ to calculate $30 + 7 = 100$; $100 - 70 = 30$ and $70 = 100 - 30$.

The children will continue to learn how to tell the time to o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past. We will also continue to learn how to tell the time in 5 minute intervals.

We will also study 2D and 3D shapes. The children will recap their knowledge of their names and learn 2D and 3D shape properties.

Below is a link to a fantastic interactive maths game with quick fire questions on number bonds, times tables and doubling and halving facts. It is designed to develop mental maths skills. You may wish to explore this website with your child at home:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Science

Our topic is called: **Animals, including humans**

The children will be introduced to the basic needs of animals for survival, as well as the importance of exercise and nutrition for humans. We will be looking at growth in animals (E.g. egg, chick, chicken; egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly; spawn, tadpole, frog etc.).

Topic

Our topic this half term is called Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. The children will be learning about the importance of doing the 3 R's. They will be looking at how climate change is affecting the world and learning about carbon footprints and sustainability. They will be thinking about how they can help save our world.

PE

Games



Our topic is called 'Communicating different moods, feelings and ideas through dance.' The children will be performing short dances, showing an understanding of expressive qualities of the dance style.

Gym

Our topic is called 'High and Low'. The children will focus on increasing their range of basic gymnastic skills. They create simple sequences of 'unlike' actions on the floor e.g. a roll, jump and a balance. They then transfer what they have learnt to the apparatus.

Homework

We will be following the same procedure for homework. Spellings and homework will be given out every Friday. We will test the children on their spellings every Friday.

We would like the children to complete the work independently and discuss it with you. If your child finds any part of the homework difficult please make a note in their reading record.

Ms Sorrentino and Mrs Jackson