



Year 1 Newsletter

October 2023

Dear Parents,

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

Religion

This half term we will be exploring the Islamic faith for two lessons.

'**From Advent to Christmas**': We will be exploring how Mark's Gospel portrays the birth of Jesus and how we prepare for Christmas during the season of Advent.

Key vocabulary: Christmas, Advent, wreath, Gospel, Old Testament, New Testament and liturgical year.

English and Phonics

The children will be split this term into groups focusing on their Phonics.

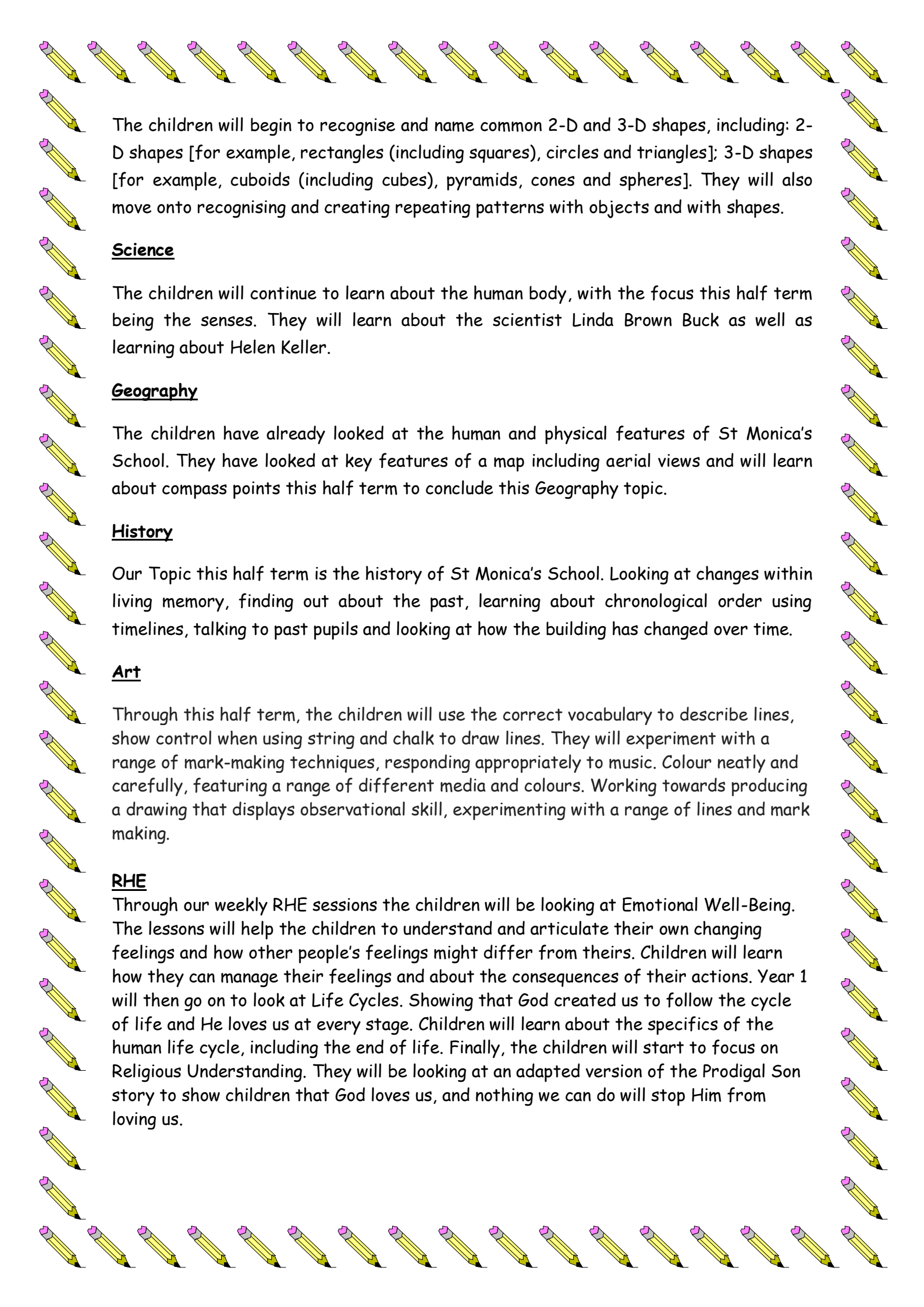
They will also be looking at the book 'Out and About: A First Book of Poems by Shirley Hughes.' Making cross curricular link with Science, Topic and Forest School.

The children will be continuing to work on their letter formation. We will be focusing on using capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in the correct places when writing simple sentences. We will be continuing to work on developing independent writing.

Please continue to read with your child or share a story every night at home when possible.

Numeracy

This half term we will continue to learn about addition and subtraction with numbers up to 10. The children will explore writing number sentences, addition fact families, number bonds within 10, number bonds to 10, adding and subtracting and problem solving. They will use part-whole models, tens frames, number lines as well as manipulatives to help them.



The children will begin to recognise and name common 2-D and 3-D shapes, including: 2-D shapes [for example, rectangles (including squares), circles and triangles]; 3-D shapes [for example, cuboids (including cubes), pyramids, cones and spheres]. They will also move onto recognising and creating repeating patterns with objects and with shapes.

Science

The children will continue to learn about the human body, with the focus this half term being the senses. They will learn about the scientist Linda Brown Buck as well as learning about Helen Keller.

Geography

The children have already looked at the human and physical features of St Monica's School. They have looked at key features of a map including aerial views and will learn about compass points this half term to conclude this Geography topic.

History

Our Topic this half term is the history of St Monica's School. Looking at changes within living memory, finding out about the past, learning about chronological order using timelines, talking to past pupils and looking at how the building has changed over time.

Art

Through this half term, the children will use the correct vocabulary to describe lines, show control when using string and chalk to draw lines. They will experiment with a range of mark-making techniques, responding appropriately to music. Colour neatly and carefully, featuring a range of different media and colours. Working towards producing a drawing that displays observational skill, experimenting with a range of lines and mark making.

RHE

Through our weekly RHE sessions the children will be looking at Emotional Well-Being. The lessons will help the children to understand and articulate their own changing feelings and how other people's feelings might differ from theirs. Children will learn how they can manage their feelings and about the consequences of their actions. Year 1 will then go on to look at Life Cycles. Showing that God created us to follow the cycle of life and He loves us at every stage. Children will learn about the specifics of the human life cycle, including the end of life. Finally, the children will start to focus on Religious Understanding. They will be looking at an adapted version of the Prodigal Son story to show children that God loves us, and nothing we can do will stop Him from loving us.



Music

Children will have a weekly lesson with Mr Charles-Nelson. The topic this half term is "Winter celebrations." They will also be preparing for their nativity play.

PE

Games

In games we will be looking at travelling with the ball. The children will focus on controlling the ball with their feet, avoiding obstacles, intercepting the ball as well as continuing the skills learnt last half term which included throwing and catching.

We hope that this is a useful guide for you. If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to ask us.

The Year 1 Team

Mrs Duffy, Mrs Kells, Miss Anderson, Mrs Rogers and Mrs Pappalardo