

Year Two's Half Termly Newsletter

Mrs Cowen and Mrs Edwards

April 2022

We are really excited about continuing our learning journey together during this very busy and fun filled half term. Year Two will be full to the brim with lots of learning, adventures and laughter! In Year Two this term we will be supported by Miss Barton, she will teach in our class every Thursday morning as she has been doing this year. She loves working with our class and knows all the children well. Please remember that our door is always open. If you have any questions or want a general chat about your child's learning that we will be very happy to speak with you. We are available most evenings after school so please see the office if you wish to book an appointment or a chat over the phone. We will continue to use your child's Home Learning Journal as a source of communication from time to time so please aim to check these frequently. Please are free to write a message to us in your child's Learning Journal, but please bear in mind that these are not checked every day, so do prompt your child to bring it to the us when they get into class.

The Year Two Curriculum

There is plenty of information on our school website about the curriculum, including knowledge organisers, spelling lists, year group specific curriculum maps and home learning resources, so please head over to find out about all of the Year Two Curriculum. You will find this information under 'Children'.

Special Agent Training Service (SATS)

This half term, during May, we will be completing some special work in Year 2. Our Special Agents will have the opportunity to complete a range of Reading, Writing and Maths tasks to show off everything they have learnt and can do. We are confident these will be fun experiences for the children so please don't worry about them. If anyone has any questions please do just ask.

Five Be Trips & Experiences

As part of our Be Inspired experiences on 4th May we will be visiting the Anglican and Metropolitan cathedrals in Liverpool. We are hoping the children will be inspired by these two beautiful places of worship. We will observe and discuss similarities and differences between the buildings. This will help us to consider the RE question, 'Why is the church a special place for Christians?'

We are hopeful we will rearrange our Be an Explorer camping experience for the second half of the summer term as our original date of 26th May clashes with the school jubilee celebrations. You can find out more about the FiveBe Experiences on our school website: <https://st-thomas-church-of-england-primary-school-secure-primariesite.net/experiences/>

Home Learning

In Year Two, we continue to prioritise reading. We ask that pupils read at least five times a week at home. We understand that it is not always possible for pupils to read with an adult every day so we also encourage independent reading. Please can an adult sign their child's reading journal when they have read. As usual, we will complete a weekly reading raffle as an incentive for children to read frequently.

The children have lots of opportunities to read and enjoy books throughout the week at school too. We will only change the reading books when we are confident the children have understood the texts fully and when we read with them. This will usually be once a week but the children will bring 2 books home per week.

Children will continue to be provided with a banded home reading book selected from the class library. We encourage pupils to read these books at home, but to also feel free to read any other book they may enjoy – this could include books from home, a library or even magazines and newspapers. All reading is good reading! The children need to bring their reading packs to school each day. Please record in the journal each time your child reads.

We will continue to focus on developing the children's level of comprehension. During individual and guided- reading they will be learning to find answers from the text itself. We will also be encouraging the children to give opinions about what they read and to consider any hidden messages from the

author. Please try to encourage this at home too. Use the dog book marks we distributed earlier in the year to help with your questioning.

Children will also continue to be encouraged to access Times Table Rockstars and take part in numerous battles. A strong times table knowledge builds an excellent foundation for mathematical understanding, so please do encourage your child to access TT Rockstars daily. In Year Two we aim for the children to recall quickly multiplication facts for 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x tables with ease and speed.

In Year Two we also ask that children learn to recall number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 and are able to rapidly recall these when asked. Knowledge of these helps with conceptual understanding and enables the children to answer arithmetic questions quickly and to develop greater fluency. Any support with this at home is also greatly appreciated.

Spellings are sent home at the beginning of each term, these are also saved on the school website. We encourage pupils to practise these spellings as frequently as possible at home. The children will record their scores each Monday and any incorrect spellings in their home learning journal.

This half term's home learning menu is attached, it provides your child with lots of different ideas to further their learning at home. We encourage pupils to complete at least one activity from the menu per half term. We will dedicate time at the end of the half term to share and celebrate any work completed from the menus. We were delighted with the enthusiasm for these last term for History and Music. We are now excited to see what creative work can be created about RE 😊

Book Bags

Please ensure that your child's book bag comes to school each day. Pupils should ensure that they have their reading book and Learning Journal in their book bag every day. Letters sent home will be placed in book bags, so please do check frequently for these.

Seesaw

Seesaw will continue to be used by class teachers and your login details should stay the same. If you have any problems logging in, please let us know and we can send the details home. Seesaw may be used to send announcements, any extra home learning or even to showcase excellent work, but please note that the message function will not be in use. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please make an appointment to do so at the school office. Miss Barton will continue to use the Seesaw messaging function to liaise with parents about music lessons.

PE- Swimming

PE will be swimming this term and will take place on Tuesday afternoons. Our first session will be on the first day back 19/4/22. Please ensure your child brings in their swimming kit each week. They will need a trunk or a swimming costume, goggles (if required), a swimming cap and a clean towel each week. We will be the second group to go swimming each week so will be back at school approximately 3.35pm, dependent on the speed at which children get changed. Please still come to our classroom door to collect the children at this time.

Sun Safety

As we are now in the Summer term, we will (hopefully!) be experiencing some warm weather, therefore please ensure your child has the following:

A water bottle (please no metal water bottles), a labelled bottle of suncream and a white or navy cap or sunhat. We are a Sun Safe school - please visit the below for more advice and information:

<https://www.sunsafeschools.co.uk/>



PLEASE REMEMBER:

We very much look forward to the summer term ahead and thank you for your continuing support this year.

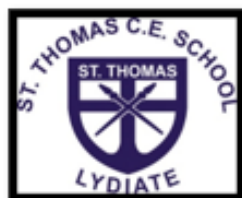
Kind regards, Mrs Cowen and Mrs Edwards

Maths In Maths we will be finishing work about flat and solid Shapes. We will be learning about fractions, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of shapes and amounts. We will also be practising telling the time. We will continue to practise our times tables and will focus on patterns which help us with learning and rapidly recalling facts for the 2x, 5x, 10x and 3x tables.	English In English, we will be reading Rapunzel by Bethan Woolvin. We will be learning about the features of traditional tales and how these can be rewritten with a twist. We will use the text as a stimulus for writing a diary entry, instructions, an explanation and a Wanted poster. We will focus on securing spellings of the Y1 and Y2 Common Exception words and on using these independently in our writing.	RE In RE, we will be learning about churches as special places. We will look closely at a range of churches and discuss similarities and differences. We will enjoy a trip to Liverpool to learn more about our two cathedrals. We will ask and answer questions to develop our understanding and thinking.
Geography In Geography we will be learning about the Scandinavian countries of northern Europe: Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland. We will study the Physical and Human features of these countries.	PHSE	Science In our Science lessons this half term we will be studying Materials and Matter. Through investigations we will learn about properties of liquids, solids and gases.
PE In PE, we will be focussing on Swimming. We will gain confidence in the water and practise swimming independently.	Computing During our Computing Day we will be learning about Programming. We will explore algorithms and create our own simple methods for programming.	Art In Art, we will be learning about Portraits and Self Portraits. We will study the style of a range of artists and look at their different methods for creating portraits.

Jesus said, 'Come follow me, live your lives the way God wants you to.'

Year 2 Home Learning Menu

RE: Why is the church a special place for Christians?



Get Creative

Can you design your own church?
What do you think a new 21st Century church should look like?
What would you like to see inside this new church? What do you think is important and must be included?

Use your imaginations, but there must be some kind of font and altar.

Can you label a plan and explain your thinking? Can you make a model of your church/artefacts using play dough, clay or junk modelling?

Oh, the places you'll go!

Can you visit a local church and ask the clergy to show you around?
What can you find out about the furniture, artefacts, vestments and services? Why are they there? What are they used for? Who uses them? When?

Can you photograph/draw or paint the church and include the outside features of the building as well as the inside? Is there a tower or a steeple? Is there a church yard to explore?

Time to Teach

Can you prepare a lesson for a member of your family about the importance of the church as a special place for Christians?
Can you teach them about special artefacts?
Can you explain about Moses and the people of God who built the Tabernacle? (Tent of meeting)

Reason to Research

Look at examples of different churches using the internet:

<https://www.roadaffair.com/most-beautiful-churches-in-the-world/>

<https://www.touropia.com/most-beautiful-churches-in-the-world/>

What do you learn about the importance of churches to people across the world?

Ready to Report

Collect pictures of churches from all around the country, the inside and the outside, along with people taking part in church services. This could be presented as a collage or Power Point Report. There are several good quality short films on the RE:Quest website www.request.org.uk

Have it your own way!

Or complete a task of your choice in any way that you choose!