



St. Mary's Catholic
Primary School

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Marnhull

Year 1- St Anthony's Class

Spring 2020

Happy New Year!! Many thanks for all the cards, presents and kind wishes at the end of last term. It's is great to be back, the children have told me all about their Christmas holidays, it sounds like you all had fun! I have been really impressed with the children's enthusiasm on their return to school and we have got straight back into learning. This term our topic is Peering into the Past - we will focus particularly on trains in the past. Below sets out the main areas of learning for this term.

<p>English</p> <p>In English we will be listening to and retelling stories with a train theme. These books will include, 'Oi Get Off Our Train' 'The Train Ride' and 'Steam train Dream Train!' The children will write sentences to retell the story or describe characters and settings. We will also be researching endangered animals and writing nonfiction texts about them. We will continue to encourage the children to say their sentences out loud and to listen carefully to sounds in words as they write. They will also be encouraged to spell our tricky words correctly in their writing. There will be a focus on remembering finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. Many children will be able to extend their sentences with 'so; and 'because'. The children will continue to learn alternative phonic sounds in their daily phonic sessions. For example they will learn that the 'or' sound can be made with alternate letters like 'au' and 'aw'. This is good preparation for their phonics screening in the summer term.</p>	<p>Maths</p> <p>In maths the children will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• learn to represent and use number bonds to 10 (all the pairs of numbers that make 10).• read, write and calculate mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals (=) signs.• add and subtract one-digit and two digit numbers to 20.• learn to count, read and write numbers to 50.• count to 50 forwards and backwards.• identify one more or one less than a given number to 50.• identify and represent numbers using objects and pictorial representations including the number line.• use the language of: equal to, more than, less than (fewer), most, least.• begin to count in multiples of twos, fives and tens.
<p>Topic</p> <p>This term our topic 'Peering into the Past' has a History focus. The children will be learning all about the railways and how rail travel has changed through the years. They will learn about some significant figures from the past including Isambard Kingdom Brunel and George Stephenson. In science the children will be investigating materials and their properties. They will also participate in the RSPB -</p>	<p>RE</p> <p>We will start the term by looking at the feast of the Epiphany. Then we will begin Revelation focusing on what love is and how it looks and feels. They will hear some of the stories Jesus told and think</p>

<p>Big Schools Birdwatch. In Music we will be listening to Straus' Pleasure Train and attempting to create our own train music. In ICT The children will begin creating their own animated story. Our art focus will be creating mood and texture with paint.</p>	<p>about what can be learnt from parables. They will learn that Jesus is an example of Love. We will continue to complete our Spiritual Journals weekly.</p>
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How you can help your child:

Reading: Every child will read as part of a small group in class once a week in addition to being heard individually. Hearing your child read at home is really important as this regular practice will help them to progress both in their reading and writing. When reading with your child encourage them to sound out words that they don't know and ask them simple questions after they have read e.g.: what was the main character called, why did he do that, what was your favourite part of the story etc. Children reading to an adult at home four or more times a week will work towards their reading certificates. Once they have read four times a week for ten weeks they will get a certificate. Please record any reading in your child's reading record.

Writing: Encouraging your child to write at home will make them more enthusiastic about writing. A few ideas for purposeful writing are shopping list, messages for family members, thank you letters or notes to friends. The children are encouraged to bring in to school any writing they have done at home where they will be praised and invited to share it with the rest of the class.

Spelling: Children are taught phonics every day in school where they will learn the sounds that individual and groups of letters make together. When writing it is important to encourage them to listen to the sounds in the words that they are trying to spell and write down the sounds that they can hear. We will be sending a spelling book home with a few spellings on a Friday - it would be brilliant if these could be practised at home for a spelling quiz the following Friday.

Maths: The children are really finding their feet and confidence with their maths. They are interested in numbers and love counting bigger numbers! Embrace this at home and see which numbers they can now recognise and how far they can count. We will be learning our number bonds to 10 this term this is something you can practise at home. Say a number and see if the children can quickly calculate or recall the pair that will make a total of 10. If they master this go on to their bonds to 20.

Bookbags: Bookbags should be brought into school every day and kept in the children's tray. Reading Records are checked several times a week when children are heard read individually. Children are encouraged to change their own book when needed but please discourage them from changing levels themselves. I love to hear how the children are doing with their reading at home so please let me know.

<p>PE kit: Please make sure your child has his/her PE kit in school on Tuesday and Wednesday. This should include a pair of shorts, a t-shirt, and daps/trainers. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure their earrings are</p>	<p>Outdoor Clothing Please ensure your child has a coat in school for outdoor play and learning. If you have waterproof trousers and wellies they would be great for our welly walks.</p>
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removed or taped on these days. Please make sure uniform and PE kit is named so things don't get lost.	
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As always if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to come in and see me.

Many thanks,
Ellie Myatt