

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Marnhull

Year 2- St Mark's Class

Spring 2020

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you all a very happy and healthy 2020. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the thoughtful and generous gifts, cards and kind wishes given at the end of last term. This term we shall be 'Peering into the Past' for our new topic, focusing on the work of Florence Nightingale.

English

In English, we will begin by working with our new literacy book 'Vlad and the Florence Nightingale Adventure' by Kate Cunningham. The children will be supported to broaden their use of vocabulary within their writing, applying this to character and setting descriptions, diary entries and persuasive writes.

Children will be encouraged to focus on their spelling, punctuation and grammar written tasks and will also have the opportunity to check their work and make simple edits and corrections.

Within our whole class carpet sessions, we shall be encouraging all children to share their ideas and partake in class discussions. This will ensure that they are building on their listening, speaking and communication skills.

Maths

In maths, we shall begin the term by revisiting and building on our understanding of multiplication and division, before moving on to statistics and shape later on in the term.

We will be teaching a range of strategies and methods for children to use and apply when working on a range of maths questions and number sentences.

The children will practise counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10 from any number, forward and backwards. With support, children will begin to recall and use multiplication and division facts, including recognising odd and even numbers.

We will continue to encourage the children to use a range of practical, pictorial and numeral visuals, to enable them to answer a range of reasoning and problem solving questions.

Topic	RE
<p>Our topic this term will be 'Peering into the Past', with a key focus on Florence Nightingale.</p> <p>In Art we will be looking at the primary and secondary colours, colour mixing with paint, and the effect that colour has within a piece of artwork. The children will explore how pencils can be used to create different tones and textures, applying this knowledge and skill in drawing a portrait. Children will build upon their skills in using, paint, colour, pencil (tone and texture) and print.</p> <p>In science, we will learn that humans are animals and that we produce offspring which will eventually grow into adults. We will compare the similarities and differences between humans and animals, from child to adult. We shall learn how to describe the basic needs for survival and the importance of a well-balanced diet and the importance of exercise for humans.</p> <p>In computing, we will learn how to create programmes and use simple algorithms. The children will understand what debugging means and the need to test and debug programmes repeatedly. Children will learn how to refine searches using the search tool and gain independence in using our ICT equipment.</p> <p>In History we will explore what makes a person significant within our own lives and within history. Children will learn about Florence Nightingale and the impact that her work had on others, comparing her work to that of Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell. We shall identify the main changes which have taken place in hospitals and how these historical nurses have made an impact to the health service.</p> <p>In PE, the children will be learning gym skills with Mrs Finch and ball skills with myself.</p>	<p>We will start the term by looking at <u>Revelations</u></p> <p>- This unit helps pupils become aware of events in Scripture, which show how special Jesus is. The miracle stories unveil the specialness of Jesus and the kingdom of God. Pupils will explore how Jesus uses this specialness for the benefit of others. We will continue to complete our Spiritual Journals weekly.</p>

How you can help your child:

Reading: Every child will read as part of a small group in class at least once a week in addition to being heard individually. It is important for children to read as much as possible and it will really benefit your child if you can hear them read as often as possible, even if it is for ten minutes a day. Encourage them to sound out words that they do not 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 get a sticker on a reading rocket. Once they have ten stickers, they will get a certificate in assembly. 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. Please give them a clear purpose to this writing so that they can see the importance

and relevance. 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. It is important to encourage them to listen to the sounds in words that they are trying to spell and write down the sounds that they can hear. We will be sending homework books home (including spellings) every Monday - it would be brilliant if these could be practised at home for a spelling quiz on Friday.

Maths: The children are beginning to see that mathematical concepts are not just happening in our numeracy lessons. They are beginning to understand that maths can happen anywhere and at any time! Please promote this as much as you can, if you see interesting numbers, shapes or ideas anywhere show this to your child and see how much they know!

Bookbags: Bookbags should be brought into school everyday and hung on pegs. Reading Records are checked several times a week when children are heard read individually. Children are encouraged to change their own book when needed.

PE kit:

Please make sure your child has their PE Kit in school everyday. PE will usually take place on a **Tuesday & Friday**, but we do sometimes add in extra sneaky sessions so it's important to have it in school all the time.

Homework:

Homework will be introduced to Year 2, this term. Homework books will be sent home on a Monday and are expected to be handed in on the Friday of the same week. One piece of homework will be spellings, and a second piece of homework will be a cross-curricular piece (varying per week).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks

Melanie Fletcher