

St. David's Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a lovely half term break and are enjoying the lovely weather we are having at the moment - fingers crossed it continues! As the weather is now much warmer and sunnier could we please remind you to ensure your child has a named water bottle in school each week and that they have sun cream and a sun hat for when they are outside.

Curriculum

RE - People of God. In this unit of work we will explore what the word 'covenant' means and how God made covenants with people in the Old Testament. We explore the promises made today in some Christian ceremonies, such as weddings and we will make links between these and the covenants made in the Old Testament.

Art & DT - Japanese Art. In this unit of work we will look at the amazing and varied art of Japan. We will cover a broad range of styles, including block-printing (ukiyo-e), the concept of Notan, origami, calligraphy (shodo), folk art and even manga!

Topic - Japan. As the Olympics are going to be held in Japan this year, we will be finding out all about the country today. We will develop our map work skills through looking at the position of Japan in relation to the rest of the world and we will explore the human and physical geography of the country.

PE - NUFC and Cricket - A NUFC Coach will continue to work with the children on a Monday and in addition to this, children will be working with a cricket coach on a Thursday.

Music - The children will be completing a unit of work on Rhythm. They will develop their understanding of pulse and rhythm and learn some basic notation. They will then learn to read some basic rhythms and before composing and performing rhythms.

French - Colours In this unit the children will be learning words and phrases associated with colour. They will learn how to pronounce new words and they will write simple words and phrases in French.

Maths - Year 3 will complete work on fractions and then move on to *Geometry* where they will look at the properties of shape followed by measurement of mass and capacity.

Year 4 will continue their work on decimal fractions before moving on to *Geometry* looking at properties of shapes then position and direction.

Literacy - This term we will be working on a writing unit of work based on a text we have already read in Shared Reading - *The Firework Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman. Our Basic Skills sessions will continue to focus on spelling and grammar which the children will apply in all writing activities. In Shared Reading, we have started a new story - *Why The Whales Came* by Michael Morpurgo. We will study the text together, using VIPERS questions to deepen our understanding of the story.

Science - Plants - In this unit we will learn the names of different parts of plants, and the jobs they do. The children will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate what plants need to grow well, predicting results and presenting their findings. They will identify the parts of a flower, and will explore the different stages of the life cycle of a flowering plant.

PSHE - Safety First In this unit the children will think about the responsibilities they have and how they can keep themselves safe. They will think about what risks, hazards and dangers they might encounter and how to get help. We will think about road safety, dangerous substances and keeping safe online.

Computing - Year 3 - Branching Databases, Simulations
Year 4 - Logo, Animation

Homework

Please could children continue to hand Homework books in on a Friday with their Reading Records so that homework can be checked. Reading books are changed on a Monday and Wednesday - it is the children's responsibility to change their books when necessary. Please remind your children that spelling homework should be completed a minimum of 3 times in the week. They should complete a different spelling activity each time - a set of suggested spelling activities is in the front of their homework book. They also need to be accessing Rock Star Tables as part of their Maths homework - again we ask that the children do this at least 3 times a week in order to develop their recall and speed.

Communication

We will continue to send out class newsletters as well as school newsletters. Check the website for newsletters too. We still use ParentMail to communicate also. If you need to talk to us, please ring the office to leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Many Thanks

Heather Mortimer and Tracey Critchlow