

Excellence Together, Learning through Faith.



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Year 6 Curriculum Letter Autumn 1st Half Term 2016-17

Dear parents,

Welcome to Year 6. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday and are ready for the last part of our learning journey at St. Mary's School. I am very excited about the coming year. It will be a year full of hard work, challenges and exciting events and we intend to make it as enjoyable and memorable as possible.

Maths and English will continue to be at the core of our learning at St Mary's this year. This has particular relevance for our Year 6 with the statutory assessments coming up in May. The new National Curriculum is in place and our teaching reflects its objectives, ensuring that we provide your children with an increasingly secure foundation in these subjects. In English, we will also continue to develop our whole-school literacy project, "The Power of Reading". Our class reading book this term will be 'Treason' by Berlie Doherty. Our year 6 children have the wonderful opportunity to learn Spanish this year as this is often a language offered in secondary schools.

Our whole school topic this term is "All About Me", and our class topic is 'The Tudors'. This will be taught through strands of Literacy, History, Geography, Science, ICT and Art/DT. Our whole school RE theme is Hope.

Growth Mindset

This year as part of our whole school focus we are going to be developing the Growth Mindset philosophy in the classroom in order to instil a 'learning attitude' in the children and increase their resilience. You may hear children talking about stepping out of their comfort zone and really challenging themselves. We shall be starting the term by explaining this to the children and carrying out various activities to begin this exciting journey together.

Supporting your child at home

Reading

Please ensure that your children are reading regularly at home. They can sign their own reading records.

Spellings

You will have received a letter about our new approach to spellings already and I hope you are going to support us in this matter. Things are slightly different for year 6 and we will combine the old way with the new way. For year 6 spellings are important in two ways: The SATs spelling test and evidence of good spelling practice in the written work. You will receive the relevant spelling lists early in the term.

Homework

One piece of English and Maths homework will be sent home each week. Other tasks involving Science, Topics, Spanish or other subjects may also be given.

PE kit and art shirts Please ensure that children have their PE kit in school every day, including training shoes for Games. Children also need an art shirt in school at all times.

Pencil cases and equipment

I encourage children to bring a pencil case to school, as it encourages them to learn to value and look after their property. Pencil cases should contain a pencil, ink pen, ruler (preferably 30cm long), rubber, pencil sharpener and colouring pencils. They should also bring a water bottle each day, which should be labelled with their name.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

Mrs Dobbs

Understanding English, Communication and languages (Speaking & Listening, Reading, Writing, MfL)	Mathematical Understanding	Religious Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Power of Reading: fiction writing based on our class text, "Treason" by Berlie Doherty. - non-fiction texts, including reports, fact books and recounts - Grammar, spellings and reading will be taught explicitly, and daily within whole class sessions, small group work and individually - Spanish will be taught weekly by Mrs Zimet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understanding numbers and the number system, including place value, sequences and rounding - adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing using formal methods - problem solving - number facts, counting and calculating including decimals and negative numbers - fractions 	<p>RE is taught by Mrs Archbold. Our value for this term is Justice. This half term the children will learn about and compare Christianity with Buddhism.</p>
Scientific and Technological Understanding (Science, Design & Technology)	Historical, Geographical and Social Understanding (PSHE, History, Geography)	Computing
<p>This half term, we will be studying the Physics strand topic 'Light'. This will include learning about the eyes, shadows, reflection and refraction as well as about colours.</p>	<p>This half term the focus is History where we will be studying the Tudors, which is our topic. We will be learning about the Tudor Monarchs and Henry VIII in particular. Who were the Monarchs? What beliefs did they hold? How did they live? These are some of the questions we will be answering this half term.</p>	<p>Computing will be taught mainly on Mondays but also in combination with the other subjects.</p>
Understanding physical development, health and wellbeing. (Physical Education, Personal Economic Wellbeing and Relationships and Sex Education)	Understanding the Arts (Art and Design, Music, Drama, Dance)	
<p>Games will take place every Tuesday afternoon with 'Game on'. Ball Games will take place on Mondays, led by Mrs Dobbs. PSHE</p>	<p><i>Art and Design</i> These will be topic based and incorporated into Wednesday and Friday afternoon lessons.</p>	<p><i>Music</i> This term the children will be taught music by</p>

<p>will cover the topic of “New Beginnings” and be taught by Mrs Christie. RSE will take place in the Summer term. Further details will be provided in due course.</p>		<p>Herts Music service on Friday afternoons.</p>
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