

Years 1 & 2 Fishermen Class Spring Term 2025/26



Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you have all had a wonderfully restful Christmas holiday and are ready for a New Year and a new term in Fishermen Class.



English - The first unit this term we will share written and oral versions of traditional tales including *The Great Race*, *The Runaway Wok* and *The Race Across the River*. The children will have fun retelling the stories and creating their own versions using story maps and learn how to use co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions and apostrophes in sentences. Our next unit explores different styles of poems using the fun topic of aliens. Revise adjectives, nouns, verbs and use suffixes to create nouns. Compare poems, write and perform their own poems. Our final unit for this term enters the world of minibeasts and explores the features of a non-fiction text. The children will learn how to use noun phrases in descriptive writing, use bullet points to make a list of equipment needed for a minibeast hunt and create your own information books about hidden minibeasts.

Maths - In maths, Year 1 & 2 will be covering the *White Rose Maths* units on addition and subtraction (within 100), place value (within 100), multiplication and division & shape.

Geography - Our geography focus for the spring term is 'Our Country'. The children will be learning about:

- Name the four countries of the UK, capital cities and surrounding seas.
- Begin to know the differences between town and country locations.
- Use a range of maps (world, country, street maps, aerial views and plans) to locate places and landmarks.
- Begin to know simple features of the countries of the UK.
- Use aerial photographs to recognise basic human and physical features.
- Produce a journey line.
- Describe human and physical features of the capital city London.
- Use internet mapping programmes to observe aerial views.
- Compare the capital cities London and Brasilia.
- Use world maps and globes to begin to locate some continents and countries.



History - Our history unit explores the *Great Fire of London*. The unit will focus on the key events of the *Great Fire of London* and help them to develop an understanding of the ways in which we can find out about the past. The children will have the opportunity to increase their awareness of the past by learning about what London was like in the 17th century. They compare life in the 17th century to the present day and consider how some problems, such as the lack of an organised fire brigade and the type of buildings, caused the fire to spread. Children then focus on how and why some things changed as a result of the fire, in order to be safer. They begin to learn how historical sources can tell us about what happened in the past and how some sources are more useful than others.

Science - We will be covering 4 of the White Rose Science units this term: Animals, Seasonal changes (Spring) and Planting (Winter and Spring)

Art - In our art unit we will explore choosing, using and mixing their own colours to create quality art work that shows progression in skills. The children will have the opportunity to explore the life and work of six key abstract artists and, working primarily in paint, to create pieces in a range of abstract styles.

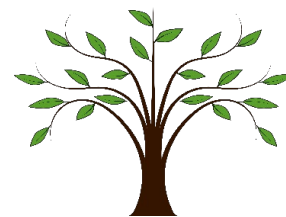


DT - We will be exploring Fabric Faces in DT. Using simple fabric choices we will look at texture and pattern and then adding detail with simple sewing techniques

Computing -The children will be following the 'Purple Mash' Computing scheme. We will continue getting used to logging in to the programmes we use in school independently and follow up with beginning to think logically about scenarios. Children will be introduced to the term 'algorithm'. This concept is at the core of coding that we will build on later in the year.

RE - Our first topic in the new 'To Know You More Clearly' Scheme is:

- Branch 3: From Galilee to Jerusalem
- Branch 4: From Desert to Garden



Music - Our Charanga units this term will be 'In the Groove' and 'Round and Round'. The children will continue to explore differing musical genres and focus on holding a pulse as a group.

Homework

The homework tasks that the children are expected to complete are as follows:

- Read their school reading book (daily)
- Practise spellings (set weekly & practise daily)
- Multiple Marathon practise (weekly for Year 2)
- Mathematics (weekly for Year 2)
- Topic based homework will be set as appropriate



Homework will be set on a Friday and needs to be handed in on Thursday morning.

The completed homework will be marked on this day, with a reward of a house point for handing it in. The children will receive the Spelling test will be on a Friday for Year 1 and Year 2.



P.E.

PE lessons will take place on a Thursday afternoon. Please ensure that your child has the following kit suitable for both indoor and outdoor sessions:

- A red t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- A pair of tracksuit/jogging bottoms
- A hoodie or sweatshirt

This term the children will focus on ball games and multi-skills. They will also continue to have a weekly dance session on Friday afternoons. We will aim to be outside as much as possible for our P.E. session, so it is important that the children have the items listed above to keep them warm as the weather gets colder. **Please note: in the interests of safety, children with earrings will be expected to remove them.**

Forest School-

I am delighted to be continuing the children's Forest School provision on Tuesday afternoons. Fishermen Class will be joined by Farmers Class for these sessions and they will be a mixture of child led learning, outdoor learning and linking to class topics where appropriate. These sessions will take place in all weathers, so children **must** have:

- Waterproof over trousers
- Waterproof coat



- Wellies

As the weather gets colder, it is advisable to have additional layers e.g. a coat underneath the waterproof jacket, gloves, hats, welly socks etc. An additional Forest School leaflet will be send to parents with more information.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

The phonics screening check is an informal test that children will need to complete at the end of Year 1 and again in Year 2 if a child needs to retest. During the test, which is designed to test their ability to decode words using their phonics knowledge, children will be required to read a mixture of 40 real and nonsense words. The phonics screening check is an important part of children's early phonics education and shows how well their reading and phonics skills are developing. The check usually takes place at the beginning of June. More information will follow later on how you can support your child.

The school provides all the equipment that the children require for them to complete their school work. **Children in Fishermen Class will not need to bring any items into school from home.** Items from them become 'lost' which can cause disagreements or distress for the children.

Please can all lunch boxes, water bottles, PE kit, School uniform and Forest School kit be labelled with the child's name.

If you have any queries or questions, then please feel free to arrange a meeting by contacting the school office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Clipson

Class Teacher: Fishermen Class

St Marys Catholic Primary School ALW