

ST. TERESA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Year 1 Newsletter



St Teresa's
Catholic Primary School

“DO THE LITTLE THINGS WELL”

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back

CURRICULUM:

Our topic this for spring term 1 is 'Are you ready to explore?'. We are going to be reading *The Owl* and *The Pussycat*. We will be thinking about how different people explore the world and find new places! We will be researching Christopher Columbus in history and retelling his life. In geography, we will be exploring new places around the world. Our targets within geography are to know the different continents all over the world. We are going to be designing our own boats to travel around in and studying people that have travelled the world in a boat. We will look at maps to explore the different places we can visit and looking at the different flags of the world! Our first science topic is 'Identifying materials'. We will be looking at different materials and their properties. Our second science topic is 'Types of animals'. We will be looking at different species of animals in different climates.

This term we have lots of exciting events planned for the children. We will have an 'explorer' WOW day in the first half of the term. **Please see the list of dates at the end of our letter for key events this term to avoid missing out on these wonderful opportunities.**

RE:

In RE we will be looking at Special People. We start to think about the people who are special in our lives and what makes them so special. We then begin to look at the church community and think about who has a special role in our parish family. We then begin our second topic, Meals. This is where we think about the importance of joining together to celebrate and what makes certain meals special. We will also begin to look at what happens during Mass and why.

READING, HOMEWORK AND PHONICS:

Thank you for your support to complete the children's homework each week. We ask that you continue to read 5 times a week with your children at home. Children who read a minimum of five times a week will be rewarded with a sticker in their personal organiser.

The year 1 phonics screening test is fast approaching and we would like to remind parents to continue with your hard work practising the phonics sounds and alien words at home.

We are grateful for any time you can spare to come into school and read with the children. Please just let your child's class teacher know if you are interested.

UNIFORM:

The children have come back to school looking really smart and we would like this to continue through the year. Please ensure your child only wears brown or black hair bands/clips/bobbles in their hair. Remember **no fashion hair styles** and no earrings. Shaven hair must be a grade 2 or longer. As the weather gets warmer, girls can wear yellow checked summer dresses with white socks. Boys can wear grey shorts in the warmer months too. Also can you make sure they have the correct P.E. kit in school ready for the exciting lessons we have planned.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Please support your child by reading with them on a daily basis. Asking questions about the story will help to improve your child's comprehension skills. We also encourage parents to practise the weekly spellings and continue to learn the 100 high frequency words found in the children's reading diaries.

Encourage your children to go onto Mathletics as much as possible to earn points. This is a fantastic way to develop your child's mathematical skills.

We are looking forward to working with you to support your child during this busy and important year in their lives. Please avoid taking holidays during term time wherever possible as it is very difficult for the children to catch up on the work they have missed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8th January – Return to school.

16th January 1:45 - **New year mass** – this will be in the hall and will be led by year 2 children. All parents are welcome.

19th January – **WOW day (Are you ready to explore?)** – On this day children will need to wear their school uniform. We will be doing lots of exploration activities based on this term's topic.

12th February – **Trip to Clumber park** – more information to follow via separate letters

14th February – **Ash Wednesday**

16th February – **Fitness Friday** – don't forget your fitness clothes!

2nd March – **World book day** – more information to follow

14th and 15th March 3:30 – 6:00 – **Parents' evening** – When you receive your parents evening letter, please return the slip to your child's teacher as soon as possible to get your preferred slot. Appointments will be given on a first come first served basis.

Please contact us if you have any concerns or worries.

Year 1 team

Miss Wilkins and Mrs Nicholas