

YEAR 1 SPRING 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2024

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to school after the Christmas holidays. I hope you had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year at St Mary's. I have got a very exciting half term planned for all the children.

In English, we will be focusing on traditional tales. The children will be looking at a range of stories and will be focusing on writing character descriptions. One of the stories we are going to be focusing on and writing about is Little Red Riding Hood alongside an alternative version called Little Red by Bethan Woollvin. We will also do some cross-curricular writing of postcards linked to our Geography unit, The United Kingdom!

Year One will have their spelling test every Friday. The list of spellings for the half term will be sent home via email and the first test will be on Friday 19th January. Please continue to practise your child's spellings with them each week as this supports them with their reading, writing and phonics.

In our daily phonics lesson, we will continue to use Floppy's Phonics to support your child with their reading and spelling skills. We will revise the sounds taught last term before we move on to learning new sounds. Each week, I will put a sticker in the reading record which will tell you the sounds we are learning. Please help your child to spot these sounds when they are reading.

Please continue to return reading books to school on a Monday so we can change them. Please can you keep your child's reading folder in their book bag as we will be reading with all children and recording this in their reading records. We recommend that your child reads for a minimum of 10 minutes per day, reading out loud to an adult. During the week, you can ask your child a range of comprehension questions such as: who their favourite characters are; what they think will happen next in the story; did they like/dislike the story (and why) or discuss their favourite parts.

In maths, we will be looking at place value and addition & subtraction within 20. We will be comparing and ordering numbers, calculating doubles, and solving missing number problems. We will continue to have a session each week working on arithmetic skills and mental maths. Keep a look out for the mental maths slip in your child's reading folder. This slip contains details of the current mental maths learning and an estimated assessment date that we will complete in class. You can find out more about the mental maths progression on our website

<https://www.stmaryshorsforth.org/maths>)

In RE, we will start a new unit called 'Families and Celebrations'. We will learn about our own experience of family celebrations and discuss celebrations that happen in church such as baptism.

To find out more about the other curriculum areas we will be studying this half term, please visit our website to see our knowledge organisers. Please also note the change to our PE days. **PE is now on Monday and Wednesday.**

Come and see me if you have any questions.

We are looking forward to showing you our class assembly at 9.05am on Thursday 1st February.

Many thanks,
Mr Waddington

Important Days

Monday

Reading books to be changed.

Monday & Wednesday

PE lesson (come in PE kit).

Friday

Spelling Test.

Important Dates

Wednesday 17th
January
Year 1 open
classroom
9am

Thursday 25th
January
Open the Book
9am

Thursday 1st
February
Year 1 Class
Assembly
9.05am

Friday 9th February
School closes.

Sunday 18th February
Family Mass
11am