



# *St Mary's Catholic Primary School*

*Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong  
Diocese of Plymouth*

6<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those who have provided a voluntary contribution of 40p each to cover the costs of the ingredients for our delicious 'firework biscuits'. So that we can do more activities like this in Year 3, we would very much appreciate more contributions. Thank you.

## **Literacy**

Reading:

Please support your child with their daily reading and sign your child's diary daily. As well as recording their school books, we encourage you to record any other home/ library book or text that they read. It is lovely to see your child reading and enjoying a wide variety of texts. **Please sign your child's diary 3 times per week. We will collect diaries in each Tuesday to check this! Please ensure your child has their reading book and diary in school every day.**

In Guided Reading lessons the children are using the skill of retrieval in the text 'Little Eagle, Lots of Owls', and the skills of interpreting and identifying in the text 'What is this'. They will be learning to use the word 'an' correctly and they will be thinking of a rule to help them remember it's correct use.

Spelling:

Next week, the children in Mrs Hennessey's spelling group will be tested on their **final 6 spellings**. The other children will be tested on 10 randomly picked spellings from this half term's list. **Please concentrate on practising the spellings that they got wrong in the tests this half term.** The following week, both groups will be tested on 10 or 6 random words from this half terms spelling list.

Please support your child in learning their spellings. You could also encourage them to practise writing interesting sentences with their spelling words in, or to make up games to learn their spellings (such as Tic, Tac, Toe). **The weekly spelling test will be on a Tuesday.**

## **Writing:**

We have begun our Christmas topic 'The Night Before Christmas'. For our 'Hook' we will be showing the children the animation, doing drama activities and making Christmas cards. The children will be writing their own poetry, based on the story, and using Pie Corbett's model of 'boxing up' ideas into paragraphs, which will form the verses for the poetry. We are really looking forward to seeing how creative the children can be!

## **Mathematics and Homework**

The weekly Maths homework has been stuck in your child's homework book. This will go out on a Thursday and is **due in on Tuesday please**. We mark the homework during the lesson on Tuesday morning, so please ensure that they have their homework books in school on this day.

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**"Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ"**

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Please help your child learn/recap their 2x, **3x**, **4x**, 5x, **8x** & 10x tables. Your child needs to know their tables in any order. Please use the language: times, groups of, lots of, multiply by, multiple, and product of. There will be a regular short times tables test, so it is important that your child makes time to practise their times tables please.

In our Maths lessons, we have been multiplying by 3 and multiplying by 4 using models, diagrams and simple written methods. The children have been solving problems and learning to draw arrays. Next week the children will be dividing by 4 and finding relationships between multiplication and division.

## **RE**

This week in RE the children have been using drama to help them retell and understand the story of the Annunciation. The children will be thinking about questions, words and actions around this story and they will be discussing Mary and Gabriel's qualities.

## **History**

The children are enjoying learning about the Maya Civilisation. They have been using our learn pads and computers to carry out researching for their mini research projects with a partner, about an area of Maya Civilisation of their choice (e.g. food, Gods, clothes, sport, houses, weapons).

Next week, and the week after, the children will be presenting their topic work to the class in pairs. Each child will receive a certificate in recognition of their hard work with this unit of work and research skills.

## **Swimming**

Please continue to ensure that your child has their correct swimming kit and PE kit at school on a swimming day. Thank you.

The children have been demonstrating their skills and techniques in our swimming lessons and each child will be awarded an animal certificate, which will state which skills they have achieved this term and points to work on. These will be presented to them in January. Well done to all our super swimmers. We will be doing a mini fun swimming gala on our last swimming lesson on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Next term, the children who have not had their swimming lessons yet, will have theirs.

Thank you for your ongoing support at home with your children.

Year Three Team

Miss Lomas, Mrs Horrell, Mrs Mills and Mrs Hennessey.