St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

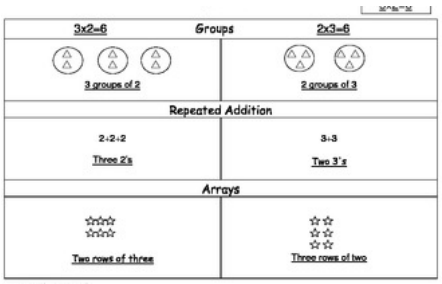
20th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here is some information about our learning last week.

Maths

Last week we continued our new topic looking at multiplication and division. Children were given practical resources to work out the answer and are then encouraged to write a range of number sentences. We have been exploring how multiplication is repeated addition and drawing arrays and bar models to show the calculations. We expect to see visual representations of the questions in their books (see below.)



Don't forget to log on and play 'Times Table Rockstars' – playing this regularly will really help to improve your child's fluency and speed. It is great fun too! If you have any issues with logging on please let Miss Shaw or Miss Dudley know.

Reading

We have a big focus on reading at the moment, and as a school you will see (or hear about!) lots of things we will be doing to encourage your child to read and enjoy books as much as possible!

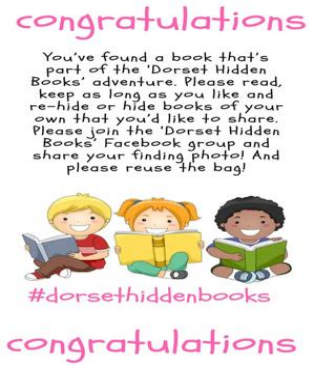
Over to you:

We will be sending home a 'favourite reading book' sheet next week, please complete and return to school by the end of this half term. We will also send home a recommended reading list which will give you a few ideas of some great books to read, this is list is also posted on our Twitter page. Finally, we will send home a 'winter reading challenge'; see how many you can tick off! We would love to see some photos of your child reading in the interesting places listed on the sheet. Why not post some examples on our Twitter page? Or bring in some photos?

Please continue to support your child with their reading at home and sign their Homework Diaries each week. Please remind your child to bring their Homework Diary in each day, especially on Wednesdays as this is when their class teacher will read any comments and sign them. Children must have their reading book in school every day and children are also reminded that they can change their book whenever they need to (ensuring they choose an appropriate levelled book!) **There are house points available to children who have their diary signed at least three times.**

Do any of you get involved in the 'Dorset hidden books' initiative? We think it is a great idea!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/941882599488572/



Writing:

Last week we looked at a range of writing techniques and language features to help us when we write our new story based on the text in a few weeks' time. We looked at synonyms for words such as happy, sad, worried and excited. We came up with words such as: uneasy, terrified, eager, animated, deflated, grumpy, joyous and ecstatic! We also looked at how we can create suspense in our writing by using short dramatic sentences.

RE

Last week we studied the four parts of Mass in detail and spent quite a long time unpicking the Liturgy of the Eucharist and considering what all the different elements mean. For example, why do we ring bells? What does absent yet present mean?

New! Home learning task

Thank you so much for all the home learning tasks we have had so far, we have been very impressed! For those who have missed the letter, we have put spare sheets in your child's tray.
Following comments at parents evening, we have sent home an information pack too. This contains the writing assessment framework, so you can see what is the expected level for a Y3 child. We also included a sentence types sheet and a subordinating conjunction sheet. Please see us if you have any questions about these.

Our stars of the week are:

Lucy (3S)

Joel (3D)

Don’t forget and useful web links

- https://www.booktrust.org.uk/
- https://ttrockstars.com/
- https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar