



# St John and St James C of E Primary School Class Newsletter

## Values

Our values focus this half term is **Dreams and goals**. We will be learning about what success means. We will also be setting ourselves goals.



## Reading at Home

Please try to read with your child at home as regularly as possible. Ideally this should be 10-15 minutes a day, which could involve both you reading to them and them to you.

## Homework

We will change home reading books on Tuesdays and Fridays, so please bring them back on those days in order to get a different one.

The homework diaries are a space for you and/or your child to record the reading they are doing at home. This can just be a quick note saying what they've read and perhaps something they enjoyed or found interesting in the book.

Writing and maths homework will be sent home on a Friday and needs to be returned on Tuesday.

## Spellings

Spelling tests are every 4 weeks. Children will be given spellings to practice every Friday. It is important that the children practise.

This some our focus sounds are: **a-e (make), i-e (like), ee (tree), o-e (phone), u-e (huge), ai (train)**.

The common exception words they will be tested on are: **was, said, your, where, there**.

## Times Tables

The school have signed up to a programme called Times Tables Rock Stars, to support the children in learning their times tables and developing their fluency. We will be launching this programme this term and the children will receive their login details. By the end of year 1, the children are expected to know their 2s, 5s and 10 times tables.



If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me directly, via the school office or the home diary.

Dear parents and carers of children in Year 1, Welcome back to SJSJ! We hope you had a relaxing half term and that your children are ready for the rest of the Autumn term!

Adults working in Year 1  
Miss Forster  
Ms Hawkins

We also have a student teacher:  
Ms Stoyanova  
She begins her placement in year 1 this term, and will be with us for most of the year.

## English

In writing our focus text will be 'Lila and the secret of rain' and 'Handa's Surprise'.



We will:

- Read and retell the story using a story map to help us to remember
- Write an adventure story
- Write a setting description
- Write an information text on Kenya

We will continue to focus on our year 1 writing targets making sure we are starting our sentences with capital letters and ending them with full stops.

The children will also begin to use exclamation marks and question marks to punctuate their writing. As well as using time conjunctions to order the events in their stories and writing.

## Dates for your Diary

**Tuesday 12th November 2019** — Trip to St Augustine's Tower, Hackney

**Friday 15th November 2019**—Year 1 Class Assembly

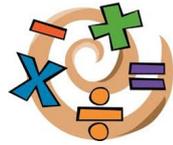
**Wednesday 11th December 2019**—Christmas Panto @ Hackney Empire

**Wednesday 18th December 2019**—Christmas Performance @ St Luke's

## Maths

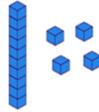
This term we will focus on:

- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- 2D and 3D shapes
- Breaking numbers into 10s and 1s



Breaking numbers into 10s and 1s is one of the most important things we will learn this year.

You can support by discussing what each digit 'really means', e.g. "does the '1' in 14 really mean just 1?" Explain that the 1 represents 1 ten. You can also use drawings of the dienes blocks that we use in school to represent numbers or support calculations.



## Science

In science, our topic is **Everyday Materials**.

Our key question is: **What is the best material to make wellies out of?**

We will start by exploring different objects and identifying which materials they are made from.

We will then move on to learning about the properties of different everyday materials.

The children will investigate which materials float and which materials sink and why.

The children will gain a concrete understanding when we use the story, 'The Three Little Pigs' to explore what materials are used for different purposes.



## Spanish

In Spanish we will be learning how to have a basic conversation. They will also learn to ask questions such as 'how old are you?' and be taught how to answer.

The children will spend much time learning their body parts in Spanish, they will draw a face listening to a description and learn body parts song in Spanish.

Finally they will learn the Merry Christmas song and have the opportunity to make Spanish Christmas cards.



## Topic

Our new topic this half term is 'UK and Kenya',

Our key question is:



**Why is the weather in the UK different to Kenya?**

Our focus is geography and we will be learning about:

- Human and physical geography
- The world map and where our families are from and locating Kenya and the UK
- Life in Kenya- similarities and differences to the UK
- Weather patterns and the climate in Kenya
- The equator
- Maps and how to use them



## PE

We will continue to have PE on a **Monday** and **Wednesday**.

This term we will be focusing on **gymnastics and dance**.

Please make sure that your child has the correct school PE kit for each session.



## R.E

To begin this half term our key question is:

**Why are saints important to Christians?**

We will be:

- Thinking about the special things that happen to us and others.
- Talking about aspects of religious stories which raise questions for people.

We will then move on to our Christmas learning and our key question will be:

**Nativity Characters: Which character are you? Why are you important?**

Some of our learning will involve us reading and retelling the nativity story through drama and using story maps.