



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

### PE

This term we will continue to have PE on a **Wednesday**.

This term we will be focusing on **Gymnastics**. The children will develop their skills of travelling, rolling, balancing and composing routines.

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



### Reading at Home

Every child's reading diary will be checked **everyday** for comments and to ensure the children are reading every night.

We will change home reading books on **Tuesdays and Thursdays**, so please ensure the books are handed in to allow children to change their books to further develop their love of reading.

Children who are doing **AR** will be changing their books every **Monday & Thursday** after completing an AR test.

**Please ensure your child is reading for at least 20 minutes each day and encourage them to read aloud to someone when possible.**

### Homework

Homework will continue to be handed out each week via **google classrooms** on a Friday and must be returned to school by **Tuesday**. **It is the children's responsibility to make sure their homework is handed in.**

A writing task, maths activity and spellings will be handed out each week.



### Spellings

The children will have spelling words to learn for homework each week. In class, the children will look at spelling rules in more depth, through a wider range of games and activities.

We will also continue using **spelling shed** for extra spelling practise. Individual login stuck in the front of their homework books. They will be set extra activities through their profiles which will further support the children in learning and practising their spelling words each week.



### Times Tables

We will continue to use Times Tables Rock Stars, to support the children in learning their times tables and developing their fluency. Children should have their login details. By the end of year 2 the children are expected to know their 2s, 3s, 5s and 10 times tables.



Dear Parents & Carers in Year 2,

Happy new year & welcome back to SJJSJ! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas holiday and that your children are ready for some more learning in **2024!**



Adults working in Year 2:  
**Miss Wallace**  
**Mrs Eames**

### English

In writing our focus text will be **The Extraordinary life of Mary Seacole!**



We will be using this book to write a **Diary entry and a biography about the life of Mary Seacole.**

We will be focusing on using **subordinating conjunctions and past continuous progressive forms**. We will also continue using figurative language such as expanded noun phrases and adverbs to embellish our sentences and engage readers.

We will continue to focus on our year 2 writing targets making sure we are using accurate punctuation, joining our sentences with a range of conjunctions and using expanded noun phrases.

Each child has their own individual targets that they are working towards and focusing on within our writing lessons.

## Maths

This term we will focus on:

- Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
- Money
- Multiplication and division



We will start the term continuing our unit on shapes. We will be looking at the properties of both 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes, and use these to help us sort and classify different shapes and create patterns.

We then move onto money using our addition and subtraction knowledge calculate amounts. We also focus on comparing amounts, finding the difference between amounts and calculating change. We will then move onto multiplication and division timetables. Looking a different strategies to solve multiplication and division problems.

## Science

In science, our topic is:  
**Animals including humans**



Our key question is: **How do animals and humans grow?**

Our key scientist is: **Maria Sibylla Merian**

She was a scientist who studied the natural world and was most famous for her observations of the metamorphosis of butterflies.

We will start by recapping our prior learning of the human body and our 5 senses.

We will then explore the basic needs of survival for both humans and animals , the importance of hygiene and we will consider how a healthy diet and exercise impacts growth. We will also explore life cycles and look at what different things are needed at stages during an animal/ humans life.

## Art

Our art topic this term is **observational drawings**.  
Our key artist is **Claude Monet**.



To create our pieces we will looking at how to draw lines in different thicknesses.

Our key words and drawing techniques we will be using are:

**Lines, shapes, tones, and space.**

We will be using different shades and colours to create realistic drawings. We will also be using different medias and investigating how the tone, light/dark shadings and patterns make our drawings more realistic.

## Humanities—History

Our new topic this half term is **Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole**.



Our key question is:

**How did Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole change healthcare?**

Our focus is history and we will be learning about:

- **The Victorian Era**
- **Who Florence Nightingale was**
- **Who Mary Seacole was**
- **The impact Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole had on health care**
- **How healthcare has changed over the years**

We will be using a range of primary and secondary sources to enquire about our key historical figures and discussing the reliability of these sources. We will also discuss the impact Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole had on our healthcare system today and the significance of this.

## Oracy

This term we will be continuing to develop each child's capacity to use speech to express their thoughts and communicate with others, in education and in life.

Children will have the opportunity to take part in a big debate based on our history topic to help hone their oracy skills.



## R.E & PSHE

For RE this half term we will be focusing on **Judaism**.



**Our key question is:** Why are they having a party?

We will be looking at the importance of religious festivals that Jewish people celebrate throughout the year and why they are significant.

We will also consider what religious festivals we celebrate and how they may be similar and how they differ.

Our PSHE focus this half term is **Celebrating differences**.

We will be learning about what makes us different. We will also be discussing why our differences are important and how bullying can be defeated through celebrating our unique qualities .