

St Mary's Church of England Primary School

Half Term Curriculum Plan and Home-learning letter

Year 3: Spring 1 – January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers.

Happy New Year to one and all! I hope you have all had a very merry and fun-filled Christmas break and that the children are feeling refreshed and energised, ready for a busy, exciting and challenging spring term.

May I take this opportunity to say a huge "Thank You" for all the wonderful Christmas wishes, cards and gifts. I am extremely grateful and very much appreciate your generosity and kindness. Thank you to all the parents and children in Year 3 for the super generous John Lewis gift voucher ©

Our key topic this half term is based around 'Rivers'. In Geography, the children will be finding out about the water cycle, discussing what a river is and locating different rivers on a map. We will look at how rivers are used around the world, identify different stages and features of a river and look at the way land-use changes from source to mouth. We will also look at flooding, how flooding affects communities and begin to identify how human activity affects rivers.

In Science, Mr Reedie will be working with the children as 'Rock Detectives'. In this science unit the children will be identifying different types of rock and experimenting to see if all rocks are as hard as each other. They will also look at soil and how it is made and carry out research around fossils.

In English this half term, we will be focusing on a text called 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. The children will discuss and explore the text through shared reading and role play. We will be developing our vocabulary skills and thinking about descriptive language. The children will produce acrostic poems, diary entries and create, edit and use play scripts. We will also be practising our reading, spellings, punctuation, grammar and cursive handwriting on a weekly basis.

In Maths the children will continue to develop their knowledge of place value, partitioning and number sequences. We will be focusing on our 3 and 4 times tables (as well as continuing to consolidate our 2, 5 and 10 times tables). We will also be looking at fractions, right angles, perimeter and rounding this half term.

In RE, we will be thinking about the religion of Sikhism and thinking about the question, 'Does joining the Khalsa make a person a better Sikh?' We will find out about Sikh ceremonies, The 5 K's and the Gurdwara as a place of worship.

Additional notes:

Home-learning and spellings will continue to be sent home on **Fridays** and folders are to be handed in on the following **Wednesday**. Children will complete weekly spelling tests on Wednesday mornings, alongside a now weekly times tables test. Please ensure all home-learning is completed and encourage children to take care over the presentation of their work. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly, this can be books from home as well as school-given books. We always encourage children to read a range of books both fiction and non-fiction. Talking with children about the books they read, will help to develop essential comprehension skills.

If you have any questions, concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Year 3 team.

J Harris

Date: January 2020