

A note from Mrs Evans

Hello everyone! Happy New Year ☺ Year 1 have returned to school with an excellent attitude and are working extremely hard each day. It is wonderful to see the progress the children are making as we move through the school year. I will continue to share our amazing achievements this term via class dojo and look forward to sharing news of our chosen class charity, Water Aid.

English

This term we will focus on traditional tales with a twist. Year 1 will study the text, Jack and the Baked Beanstalk by Colin Stimpson. Children will re-tell the story using a story map and plan their own giant adding details using noun phrases. To complete the unit the children will plan and write their own story based on Jack.

We are reading...

Our class reads for this term include Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman, The Storm Whale by Benji Davies, The Rainbow Bear by Michael Morpurgo and The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad. How Spiders Live by Fred and Jeanne Biddulph and the poems Special Request by Brian Morse and Mornings by Michelle Magorian.

Maths

In maths, we will be starting the spring term learning about shape, recognising and naming a range of 2D and 3D shapes and describing their simple properties. We will then move onto place value within 20. Children will count forwards and backwards to 20 and write numbers 11-20 in different ways and count one more and one less.

We will then move to addition and subtraction within 20. We will find and make number bonds to 20, use number lines and find the difference using related facts.

Finally finishing the term on place value within 50, making groups of ten, partitioning tens and ones and finding one more and one less up to 50.

Science

In science, we will begin the spring term focusing on animals including humans. Children will name some common animals and match the animals to the labels: bird, fish, amphibian, reptile, mammal and invertebrate. Children will also label animals as carnivore, herbivores or omnivore. They will label the main parts of the human body. Also name the offspring of animals and humans and match the offspring to the adult. Children will also show how carnivores, herbivores and omnivores are similar and different. Children will categorise food types and explain why each food group is important to humans.

Geography

This term we will be exploring the four countries that make up the UK; England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Children will focus on the location of these countries and their human and physical features. The children will learn about some of the countries most famous landmarks, the names of the four capital cities and each country's flag. We will discuss what most land in cities is used for and compare this to what most land in the countryside is used for. Geographical vocabulary such as 'inhabitants' 'remote' 'rural' and 'urban' will be discussed.

History

In history, we will start by exploring World War One. Children will explore when the war started and create a timeline of key events. Children will also explore the trenches and women's role in the war. Children will also explore how Marie Curie's invention helped the soldiers and why her actions were brave. We will then finish the term exploring the 1969 Moon landing. Children will list the main events in the Moon landing and explore Neil Armstrong. Children will also explain what makes the Moon landing a significant part of history.

Other curriculum information

Skills Builder – Our focus skills this term are 'leadership' and 'teamwork'. Our skills builder project, 'Doing Good' focuses on the skills of listening, problem solving and team work.

Art and Design - This term children will apply their knowledge and skills to recreate their own design of Clarice Cliffs 'Circle Tree' plate, using bright colours to paint circles and finishing by using black paint and a straw to blow a tree design.

Design Technology – This term, we will focus on cooking and nutrition by designing and making our own fruit & vegetable smoothie!

Computing – In computing, children will be focused on programming. They will write and create clear algorithms to solve problems. To further their programming knowledge, children will use loops in their algorithms to make their code more efficient and explain what abstraction is.

PSHE – 'Managing relationships' is the focus of our PSHE lessons this term. We will also discuss physical bullying and racism.

PE- This year, PE takes place on **Friday**. Children should wear their PE kits to school (navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and white t-shirt) on PE days – our units this term are gymnastics, dance and striking and fielding.

RE – During the first half of spring term in RE we will explore the question, 'What do Christians believe?' They will explore the qualities that Christians associate with God and reflect on stories in the Bible which tell us about what God is like. In spring 2 we will focus on the Easter story, exploring the question, 'What do you think is the most important part of the Easter story?'

Music- Our music lessons this term focus on West African call and response songs about animals.

Other information:

Homework and spellings

Children should try to complete the optional homework sent out fortnightly. Activities set will always be linked to work taught in class, including a fortnightly set of spellings. Children will also bring home a username and password to access 'Numbots' this half term.

Home Reading

Please make sure that you listen to your child read at least three times per week and that diaries are signed to reflect this. Reading records will be monitored and reading books will be changed each **Friday**.

Website: saintmarys.wigan.sch.uk

Facebook: [St Mary's CE Primary School](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCEPrimarySchool)

The website has full information about the school's curriculum, class information, school information and copies of previous letters sent out. Messages will be sent home using Class Dojo so please ask your child's teacher for information on how to join up if you haven't already.