

A note from Miss Foster

We've had a wonderful, productive start to the new year. The children enjoyed a great first week back completing our Skills Builder project 'Number Crunching' We are all looking forward to a fantastic spring term, covering the units below, and performing our Easter service for you in church ☺

English

This term, we will study the text 'Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo. In this unit of work, children will retell the story and write diary entries from characters' points of view. They will also focus on descriptive and narrative writing before moving into non-fiction, where they will produce informative non-chronological reports on South Africa, a survival guide for lions and a persuasive advert for a visiting the circus.

We are reading ...

The Iron Man by Ted Hughes and 'The Fossil Hunter' by Kate Winter.

Maths

This term the children will focus on multiplication and division. They will multiply and divide numbers by 3, 4 and 8 before moving onto comparing multiplication and division statements. Children will then move onto more complex multiplication and division, including finding remainders and scaling. Children will also focus on measurement and fractions.

Science

In science, children will begin the spring term by exploring forces. They will also study rocks, including their formation and various categories. Finally, children will study sound, where they will find patterns of volume and explore how it travels.

History

In history this term we are deepening our understanding of the Romans. Our lessons will be focused on the concepts of culture and pastimes, conflict, and society. We'll learn who Romulus and Remus were, when Christianity became the official religion of Roman Empire and why Emperor Hadrian built a wall. Following the Romans we'll learn about the Anglo-Saxons, focusing on where they originated from, the heroic code that they lived by and what the burial site at Sutton-Hoo tells us about their beliefs.

Geography

This term in geography we are focusing on rivers and coasts, their erosion and deposition (wearing away and dumping of rocks). We'll focus on the concepts of physical and human processes. The children will be able to draw, label and describe the three stages of a river and oxbow lake. They'll understand what causes erosion at coasts and describe the physical processes that create:

- caves • bays • headlands • arches • stacks • cliffs • beaches.

Finally they'll draw and label the following sea defences: • sea walls • rock armour • groynes.

Other curriculum information:

Homework

Homework will be given out each Friday and should be returned before the following Friday. The homework will always be linked to something we are studying in class.

Spellings will be given out every Tuesday for a spelling test the following Monday and will follow the rule we have been learning in class. **The pass mark is 7/10.**

Home Reading

Please listen to your child read at least three times per week for 15 minutes and record it in their school diary. Diaries must be signed by an adult after each read and need to be in school every **Tuesday** to be checked by Miss Aspinall.

TT Rock stars and Spelling tests.

Children are expected to complete 20 minutes of TT Rockstar games which will be set each week.

Other curriculum information

Skills Builder- Our focus skills this term are Creativity and Aiming high. The children will complete tasks that will support them to develop these skills and be given opportunities in lessons to exercise them.

Art and Design - We will develop our painting skills as we learn about artist 'Clara Peeters' during our art lessons this term.

Design Technology – We will focus on structures during our DT lessons, and we will be building castles.

Computing – In computing, we will explore computational thinking. We will understand what the different code blocks do and create a simple game.

PSHE – 'Positive Relationships' is the focus of our PSHE lessons this term. We'll also be discussing physical bullying and racism.

PE- In Y3 the children will go **swimming** every **Monday**. Children should wear their PE kits to school (navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and white t-shirt) and bring with them their swimming costume/trunks and a towel.

RE – During the first half of the spring term we will explore the question, 'What do Christians learn from the creation story?' After this, we will study Easter and explore why Christians call the day Jesus died, 'Good Friday'.

Music- Music lessons for Y3 this term focus on adapting and transposing motifs about Romans.

Spanish- Children will begin their spring term learning the names of animals in Spanish and will move on to foods.

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.