



Thailand Class

thailand@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Notes for Parents

Autumn 2020

Welcome back! It is wonderful to know the school is full again and to hear the buzz of class life once more! Mrs Adams, our class TA, and I are so pleased that the children have settled quickly and appear to be enjoying being in Thailand Class. Below are some of the themes and units of work that we will be covering.

Overall Themes

This term, our Topic is 'Superheroes' and we will be linking many curriculum objectives to this theme.

Phonics & English

We will continue to increase the children's phonological awareness and phonics knowledge through varied, multi-sensory activities that support their reading, spelling and writing skills. In Phonics, your child will continually re-visit, learn, practise and apply their learning according to our Jolly Phonics and Letters & Sounds approach. To inspire your child's love of words, the reading experiences will be many and varied; we will share a range of stage-appropriate fiction, poetry and non-fiction texts to delve further into our theme and beyond. Chosen texts will develop the children's awareness of the different reasons for writing and we will talk regularly to reflect on an author's imagination and intent and explore this for ourselves when we write. Also, we shall act! We shall delve deeply into many, many texts to extend your child's vocabulary and show them just what is possible through the written word.

Reading Records: I would love for you and your child to read and enjoy books together every day! I appreciate it won't always happen...but please try to make that your goal. The reading scheme books are a fundamental stepping-stone to secure your child's confidence as a reader. Reading scheme books and reading records will travel between school and home in named, A4 plastic wallets. I ask that you write in your child's reading record at least three times a week and I will make my comments once a week. We will

have to quarantine the books for 48 hours so please be aware of this.

Spellings: Children will be given new spellings to learn every Monday and the list will come to you via email from me. In class, your child will stick a hard copy of the list into their little, orange spelling book. This book will remain in school. Spelling tests will take place each Monday and will be recorded at the back of the small, orange book.

Maths

Children will learn new mathematical concepts by using physical equipment (manipulatives) and pictorial representations in order to embed and apply new mathematical language and abstract constructs to solve mathematical challenges. Your child will learn the key principles of number (to 20), to include: counting, place value, addition and subtraction and comparing numbers. Children will also learn to identify the characteristics of 2D and 3D shapes. For our mental Maths, we will be focusing on doubling to start with ,but if you feel your child is ready then please start counting in different steps...backwards and forwards in 2s, 5s, 10s and so on. Look out for your My Maths and TT Rockstars log-ins - coming to you shortly!

Science

Children will explore what it means to work scientifically within two units of work: Unit 1 - Observing Seasonal Changes and Unit 2 - Animals Including Humans.

PE

There are two PE sessions each week. Your child needs the correct drawstring bag with named PE kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. The PE kit should be in school every day and it will be sent home every Friday to be washed and it must be returned on Monday.

Class Worship & Religious Education

Our days begin either with an interactive Class Worship, a prayer or elements of learning taken from the new statutory curriculum subject: Relationships & Health Education curriculum (previously named PSCHÉ). Occasionally, class worship is led by Father Paul

or by Mr. Holloway. In RE this term, God is the subject of our first theme, followed by Celebrations & Festivals in the lead up to Christmas.

Art & Design

The children will share their knowledge and previous experience of superheroes, cityscapes and other landscapes to share ideas from their imagination to make their own superheroes, cityscapes and other backgrounds. As they draw, paint and sculpt they will develop skills and techniques in the use of colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space.

Computing

This year sees the introduction of Purple Mash to St. Mary's. It is a comprehensive educational learning tool and your child will be using it to learn Coding. Your child's introduction to Code will see them building 'blocks of code', taking them on a journey from learning how to move a single character to writing a program that contains several characters that move within the context of a story scene.

RHE

From this year, Relationship and Health Education will be a compulsory part of the curriculum. We will be starting with Healthy Eating and moving onto Mental Health and Wellbeing.

History

As part of our Autumn theme, children will consider the past lives of some real life superhero mega-stars, and they will compare them to other superheroes...those of the every day, unsung and ordinary kind. Please share if you know a real life hero that deserves a mention!

Homework

Homework books - Homework Books will be sent home on Friday. These will contain a homework grid for the whole of the Autumn term. We would like the children to complete one piece of homework in their homework book each week, but keep their homework books at home. If you can photograph or scan the children's homework tasks and email them back via the class email address, this would be fantastic!

Just a reminder: Please remember we are a nut-free school so please do not pack nuts in the children's lunch boxes.

I urge you to get in touch if you have any problems or concerns, no matter how small and insignificant you think they are. I look forward to working with you on the next step in your child's education. There will be an opportunity for you to 'Meet the Teacher' to address any concerns you may have. More details will follow later in the term.

Dates to Remember

Meet The Teacher (zoom) - Wednesday 4pm 23/9/2020

Individual school photos - Tuesday 29/9/2020

INSET day - Friday 23/10/2020,

Parents evening (zoom) - Tuesday 3/11/2020,

Wednesday 4/11/2020, Thursday 5/11/2020

Kind Regards,

Mrs Hubble