



## Autumn Term 2023 Newsletter

### Topaz and Turquoise Classes

#### Welcome to Year 5

We are very happy to see the children beginning Year 5. It is a time for new beginnings, fresh challenges and exciting learning adventures. The classrooms are ready, the children are excited to meet new and old friends, and to continue with their learning. In Y5, they will thrive and flourish in the stimulating, nurturing and safe environment of St Mary's school.

#### Curriculum

##### Maths

During the autumn term, we will be covering place value, Roman numerals, addition and subtraction, multiplication (multiples, factors, prime numbers, squared & cubed numbers, 4-digit by 1-digit multiplication) and division, followed by fractions, decimals and percentages. Weekly times tables practice will continue in school and as a part of children's homework. Times tables will be tested every Friday.

##### English

In writing, we will explore a variety of texts through Talk for Writing, starting with myths and legends. We will write in different styles to suit our audience. We will explore spelling rules and grammar structures and apply this to our writing. We have a strong focus on handwriting and presentation in all of our work. Through daily reading lessons, we will be reading a selection of texts that would support our history and geography as well as science topics. Our first text is 'Traditional Tales of West Africa'.

##### Science

In science, we will explore and investigate the properties of materials. We will carry out scientific investigations and focus on developing the key scientific skills: identifying, classifying and grouping, pattern seeking, comparative and fair testing, observing over time and researching using secondary sources.

##### Humanities (History & Geography)

During the first half of the autumn term, we will be learning about Arabia and early Islam. Our geography focus will be deserts.

##### French, Music & PE

In French, children will be covering phonics, describing feelings, face vocabulary and adjectives (noun/adjective word order), basic personal information and question words.

In music, children will be singing songs that require memorising the lyrics. We will be developing harmony and singing with skill, passion and expression.

In PE, children will be learning tag rugby, dodgeball, football, indoor athletics/cross country as well as single netball lessons to prepare for competitions.

#### Religious Education

In RE, we are exploring what The Bible's 'Big Story' is and what it reveals about having faith in God. Our assemblies focus on what our Christian values mean and how we can live them out daily. During PSHE lessons, we discuss our feelings and emotions, we learn about respectful relationships and we use meditation as part of our well-being.

### Homework

We are continuing to use J2e for homework tasks. Children can record on J2e or in the homework books provided. Work will be set on **Wednesday** and must be completed by **the following Monday**. Paper copies will be given to the children who do not have access to the use of computers /laptops or tablets.

### General Reminders

- **PLEASE NAME** all sweaters, coats, gloves, hats, plimsolls etc. We regularly end up with bundles of unnamed uniform or sports clothes, which are piling up in the lost property container.
- The children will be doing **PE** on **Fridays**. Children to wear their correct PE kit to school - this is a plain house coloured t-shirt, black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms and black trainers.
- Please ensure that your child reads every day and do ask them about **what** they have read. The most important thing is that this is an enjoyable and valuable experience, which will further support your child to develop a love of reading.
- We would like to remind parents that the school has a no jewellery policy, and earrings should be studs only, please. Nail polish is not allowed.
- If your child has long hair, please make sure it is tied back.
- Please also ensure that your child wears **black shoes** to school. If trainers, these must be completely black with no bright logos, flashing details or coloured laces/soles.
- Please send a named water bottle into school daily.
- We are a strictly nut-free school; please remember this for packed lunches and party/birthday treats.
- We are strictly a latex-free school, i.e. no latex materials including balloons, rubber bands, latex gloves etc.
- Please keep up to date with news on our website [here](#)

### Mobile Phones

- If your child needs a mobile phone, please ensure that it is clearly labelled, switched off before they enter the school premises and handed in to the teacher for safekeeping during the day.

### Key Dates

Please look out for the main newsletters as well as emails/text messages from the Admin Team.

- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October: Harvest Festival Assembly @ 9.30am
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October: Half term – school closed
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October: INSET day – school closed to children
- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October: Children return to school

\*You can find the above dates and more on our calendar [here](#).

If there is anything that you would like to talk to us about, please feel free to talk to us before or after school, or make an appointment via the School Office. We really look forward to working with you and your children this year.

**Mrs Frohock and Miss Seyit**