



St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Marnhull
Year 5/6 – St Alban's Class
Summer 2019

We have a very busy term lined up in Years 5 and 6.

This half term we are continuing with our 'Wonderful World' topic. Whilst last half term saw us focussing a lot on the local area, we will now be considering the wider world and paying particular attention to our impact on it and climate change. The children are currently working on a tree poetry competition which we are entering through the Somerset Literacy Network. Please encourage your child to take an interest in our natural world and to reflect on how together we can learn to live more harmoniously within it.

In our final topic 'Pirates and Smugglers' we will base a lot of our learning around the text 'Moonfleet' by John Meade Falkner and it will therefore be predominantly History/ English based. Through our DT and Enterprise project we will create some delicious foods that we hope will entice you into school

During the week beginning 13th May, the Year 6 children will be taking part in their SATS tests. This involves testing and assessing the children in their Maths, Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. Teachers are also required to assess the children's writing. This assessment will continue until the end of June so there is still a lot of hard work to be done in terms of writing tasks after SATS week. Some children will be invited to attend a SATS after school club for writing after the main tests have been taken to further support this. The children have been doing a lot of preparation in class for their SATS and are (I think) not only ready but quite looking forward to them!

In the second half of the term we are going on our class residential to Brenscombe Outdoor Education Centre on Purbeck. There will be an open evening nearer the time for parents and children to attend to finalise arrangements and ensure all your questions have been answered. Thank you to all those who are up to date with payments. Details about a sponsored event to help fundraise for transport to the centre will be with you shortly- please help your child to get sponsors from family and friends that you know will be happy to support them.

Below sets out the main areas of learning for this Term.

English: Formal and Informal writing Debating and writing arguments Explanation texts Information texts Poetry Narrative Writing	Maths: Geometry –Properties of shape Position and direction Perimeter, area and volume Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division Probability Problem Solving Measures and problem solving Properties of and reasoning about numbers	RE: Easter Pentecost & Mission Prayer, Feasts and Saints	PE: Cricket Athletics Tennis
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How you can help your child:

Reading:

We cannot emphasise enough, how important it is for your child to read at home on a regular basis. There is a noticeable difference in the progress that children make, not only in reading but in other areas as well, when they read at home. This helps them to increase their reading fluency and comprehension which is essential for all areas of learning.

Spelling

Thank you for your support last term with our 'Go for Gold' spelling initiative. All children made very good progress - especially those who had practised them daily at home. This half term's spellings have been given to the children to take home. Those children who achieve well are encouraged to find extra spellings of a similar pattern to those in the week's spellings

Writing: The children have many wide and varied opportunities to write in school. Please also encourage your child to write for a range of purposes at home – this could be a letter, email, story, poem or information on a subject that interests them. I have been delighted to read some stories and poems that the children have already shared with me so far that they have written at home this year.

Maths:

Look for opportunities out and about to talk Maths with your child. Shopping is always a good time but don't forget others like counting pebbles on the beach. Even at this age it can be fun estimating a large number of pebbles/ leaves/ etc.. and then using times tables to actually count them. Encourage your child to look at bus and train timetables and understand how they work. Give them your shopping bill without seeing the total and see if they can add it up and get the same amount. Just a few ideas for you to have a go at. Enjoy!

<p>PE kit:</p> <p>This term, children will need their PE kits in school every day but the main PE days are Mondays and Tuesdays. Kit should include a pair of shorts, a t-shirt, and daps/trainers. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that their earrings are removed or taped on these days.</p>	<p>Homework:</p> <p>In Maths the children will need to complete homework either linked to the work they have been doing in class or their SATs practice booklets.</p> <p>In Literacy the Year 6 children will continue to practice their SATS booklets. The Year 5 children will be given a piece of homework linked to the learning they have been doing in class. This might not always be a written piece as 'talk for writing' is an important skill in which children can explore the wealth of wonderful vocabulary that we all use before putting pen to paper. Please encourage your child to talk to you about a range of topics so that they have plenty of opportunities to practise using new vocabulary.</p> <p>Homework will be given out on a Thursday. Please can you ensure that the children have it back in school by the following Wednesday.</p>
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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,

Maria Higgs