

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is the beginning of a brand new half term, and the final full half term before your children complete the SATs tests. This is a hard-working half term where we leave "no stone unturned" in order to make sure children are prepared for the SATs and prepared for the curriculum at secondary school.

There is lots to look forward to in terms of the curriculum over the next seven weeks in terms of the various curriculum areas we will be covering as well as the successes we will see from your children. All of Year 6 have worked hard so far to prepare for the SATs and the rest of the year, and we hope that this hard work continues this half term. Your children are expected to be revising multiple times a week by now- I know that lots of children have already started doing this, so well done to them!

If your children are struggling to revise or need particular resources to help and support them, please do not hesitate to contact me, as I can provide as much support as is needed. Additionally, if you have any concerns regarding your child's progress or concerns regarding anything else, please do let me know.

This half term is such an exciting one and I am sure we will see so much success and progress from your children. However, it is also important to look after the well-being of our children, so ensuring that our young people don't feel a sense of burn-out or defeat when struggling will be essential. If you are concerned about this regarding your child, please do come and see me.

Finally, thank you for your continued support as we progress throughout the year, it has been such a memorable year so far and we cannot wait to see the wonderful achievements our children celebrate and the fantastic memories they make.

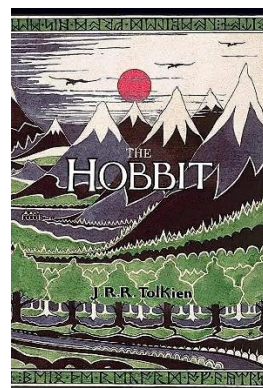
Best wishes,
Mr Spencer.

Class text

Whilst completing our study of "Skellig" the children will also be exploring "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien. The novel tells the story of Bilbo Baggins, a Hobbit, who is enlisted to accompany a group of dwarves on a dangerous quest to retake their home and treasure. He's given the job of "burglar," one he and the dwarves all believe he's unsuited for. But, as the story progresses, and the group faces growing dangers, he slowly starts to find his courage. The group encounter trolls, elves, orcs, goblins, and of course, Smaug the dragon who took up residence in the dwarves' home and is lording over their treasure.

In *The Hobbit*, readers, no matter their age, will be confronted with several interesting themes of humanity, adventure, courage and fraternity: each of which will be explored and exploited in depth within Year 6.

The use of language within the text will be explored heavily, so that children get a sense of authorial style and idiosyncrasy, encouraging them to shape their own creative writing in order to build their own style at the same time.




RE



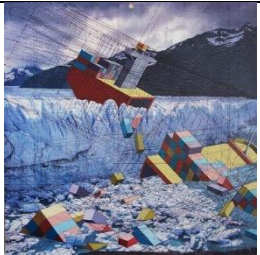
The image part with relationship ID r1c1d10 was not found in the file.




Lent

In this unit of work children will be given some opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as



| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | <p>important Lenten activities. They will examine the teaching of Jesus about these things and think about why they might be important activities for Christians today. In this unit children will also explore the Church's teaching on the forgiveness and God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.</p> <p><u>Holy Week</u></p> <p>In this unit the children will learn about the passion of Jesus from the events that took place in the Garden of Gethsemane through to the death of Jesus on the cross. They will find out some reasons why Christians have described the death of Jesus as a sacrifice.</p> | |
| <p>English</p> | <p>In English, the children will be perfecting skills that they have previously applied within Year 4 and 5 respectively. Subsequently, the children will begin to apply these across a range of extended writing pieces for different contexts, audiences and purposes whilst supplementing and enhancing their own skills to create a burgeoning maturity in their own authorial style. Many of the sessions delivered this term will be posited directly within the context of "Skellig" as well as "The Hobbit" in relation to the Year 6 focus on Climate Change and CST focus of Human dignity and will contest the children to augment their writing for numerous genres using a profound and extensive range of language features and techniques.</p> <p><i>Ongoing (and essential) teaching and learning throughout this and every term will include:</i></p> <p><i>*Grammar *Handwriting *Spellings *Reading and comprehension skills</i></p> | |
| <p>Maths</p>  | <p>The Maths curriculum at St Mary's will continue to be delivered through "Power Maths" as an innovative, progressive and exciting instrument to develop children's mathematical ability, promoting both a contextualising and an equitability within mathematical learning.</p> <p><u>Place Value: Decimals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • associate a fraction with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents [for example, 0.375] for a simple fraction [for example, 3/8] • identify the value of each digit in numbers given to three decimal places and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 giving answers up to three decimal places • multiply one-digit numbers with up to two decimal places by whole numbers • use written division methods in cases where the answer has up to two decimal places • solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy <p><u>Percentages</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compare and order fractions, including fractions > 1 • multiply one-digit numbers with up to two decimal places by whole numbers • recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages, including in different contexts • solve problems involving the calculation of percentages [for example, of measures, and such as 15% of 360] and the use of percentages for comparison <p><u>Measure: Perimeter, Area and Volume</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognise that shapes with the same areas can have different perimeters and vice versa • recognise when it is possible to use formulae for area and volume of shapes • calculate the area of parallelograms and triangles • calculate, estimate and compare volume of cubes and cuboids using standard units, including cubic centimetres (cm³) and cubic metres (m³), and extending to other units [for example, mm³ and km³] | |

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| | <p>Please continue to practise times tables. A useful website to help practise for this is https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/ which we will have been using in class too. TT Rock stars logins will also be re-issued if necessary as competitions will run throughout the year.</p> | |
| <p>Science</p> | <p><u>Animals Including Humans</u> In this unit, children will build on their learning from Years 1-5 to deepen their understanding of the human body. They will identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system and explain the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood.</p> <p>Pupils will explore how nutrients and water are transported around the body and understand how the circulatory system works to keep us alive and healthy. They will also investigate the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle choices on how our bodies function, helping them to understand how to make informed decisions about their own health and wellbeing.</p> |  |
| <p>Geography</p> | <p><u>Climate Change</u> Children will continue to explore physical and human processes in other biomes, consolidating and augmenting learning from work in jungles and deserts in Y5 as well as their explorations into fair trade food production from earlier in the year. They look at how different biomes have different environments and how we have an impact on the environment as a result of invasive human processes.</p> |  |
| <p>DT</p> | <p><u>Climate Change</u> In this unit, children will develop their understanding of climate change by exploring how physical and human processes shape different biomes around the world. Building on their learning about rainforests and deserts in Year 5, as well as their earlier work on global food production and fair trade, pupils will examine how climates influence environments and ecosystems.</p> <p>They will compare a range of biomes, identifying their key characteristics and considering how human activity — such as farming, deforestation, industry and transport — impacts the natural world. Children will explore how these actions contribute to environmental change and reflect on the responsibility we share in protecting our planet.</p> |  |
| <p>Computing</p> | <p><u>Kodu Programming</u> This unit introduces children to programming with Kodu, a simple visual programming language made specifically for creating games. The distinguishing features of Kodu are visual icons that are added together like building blocks to form instructions and game environments constructed by the user in a 3D scene editor. It is designed to be accessible by children and enjoyable by anyone.</p> | |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>French</p> | <p>Planning a French holiday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap the names of countries Use the future tense to describe going to different countries (Verb - aller) Holiday clothes vocabulary - describing what will be packed for a holiday Read simple stories about a summer holiday and show comprehension through answering questions Plan a holiday to France independently |  |
| <p>PE</p> | <p>P.E. lessons will take place on Thursday this half term. Please ensure that your child's P.E. kit remains in school from Monday to Friday, as additional sessions may take place during the week where appropriate.</p> <p>This half term, pupils will focus on gymnastics, developing strength, flexibility, balance and control. They will refine their ability to create and perform sequences with increasing precision, working both independently and collaboratively.</p> <p>As we approach the summer term, children will also take part in skills-based sessions designed to prepare them for rounders, cricket and athletic track events. These sessions will develop teamwork, coordination and game understanding, helping pupils to build confidence ahead of Sports Day and summer sporting activities.</p> |  |
| <p>Music</p> | <p>Music will continue to be taught by the magical Mrs Amison. Children will be exploring the 1960s in their commercial music tour. Year 6 will be investigating the rapid expansion of the use of technology in the recording industry in this period - multi-track recorders, early synthesisers and effects. Through listening to and performing the music of The Beatles, children will explore the drastic changes in sound from Love Me Do to Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band as the decade progressed.</p> |  |
| <p>RSHE</p> | <p>Throughout the term, we will be continuing to follow the Ten:Ten 'Life to the Full' programme for RSHE. Please log into the parent portal to access Information about the programme your children will be following, access to resources and suggestions for further activities at home.</p> <p>www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/</p> <p>You will need the following login credentials for our school: Username: st-mary-st6 Password: vision24-st6</p> | |
| <p>Key events for the half term</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole School Ash Wednesday Mass, Wednesday 25th February Y6 Active Inspire Workshop: Friday 27th February Y6 Lenten Liturgy Tuesday 3rd March Y6 Stations of the Cross Friday 27th March | |
| <p>Homework</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily Maths and Literacy set each day Two pieces of homework (Maths or English as well as one foundation subject) will be handed out on a Thursday and should be completed and handed in | |

on the following Monday. *This may be completed on Teams or within weekly homework books.

- Spellings and Times tables are tested on a Friday. Times table tests will be integral this half term as we prepare for SATS
- Additional SATs revision homework will be issued on a weekly basis. It is vital that this homework is also completed.