

St James the Great Catholic Primary School

12th January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful and happy Christmas and New Year.

We are very lucky to have a new member of staff – Ms Aneliese – working in our class, along with Ms Chris and Ms Kelly.

The children have come back with a positive attitude and have already been working hard.

Thank you for the support you gave the children with their homework over the Autumn Term. We will be continuing in the same way this term: a set of spellings, a reading comprehension, some SPaG practice and Maths practice will be given out on Fridays, to be returned on Tuesdays, and either comprehension or Maths homework (alternating weekly) will be given out on Mondays, to be returned on Thursdays.

PE sessions will continue with Coach Michael, so they will need their full and correct PE kits on Thursdays, as well as on Tuesdays, when we have our Dance lessons with Natasha. Also, please remember that the children need their instruments on school on Fridays, and that these **must** be taken home on Fridays as well.

I have outlined the main areas of learning for this half term over the page. We have been invited to take part in a concert at the Royal Festival Hall on **Wednesday 31st January**, and I have sent out further information about that along with this letter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please make an appointment for either before or after school.

Best wishes

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Mathematics	Number and Calculations Geometry and Measurement Statistics Algebra Ratio and Proportion
English	Shackleton's Journey – we will be spending the whole of this Half Term learning about Ernest Shackleton and his expedition to the Antarctic, building up to writing diaries based on the journey and the obstacles and problems that the crew faced.
RE	Please see attached sheet.
Science	Evolution and Inheritance We will learn about variation and adaptation, exploring how both Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace separately developed their theories of evolution. We will examine the scientific evidence from plants and animals that has been gathered to support the theory of evolution.
Geography	Mexico We will be learning about the physical and human geography of Mexico, focusing on landmarks, climate zones and differences between urban and rural areas. We will also be investigating aspects of Mexican culture and comparing life in Mexico to our own lives here in London.
Computing	We are website designers The children will have the opportunity to learn how to create an entire website by first researching what makes a good website. They will create a sitemap which will enable them to create a multi-page website. They will learn to link pages internally and externally. They will extend their knowledge and understanding of how to search for Creative Commons images and attribute them appropriately.
Art	Mexican Art We will be taking inspiration from a range of Mexican artists, including Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo, building up to creating a self-portrait in the style of a Mexican artist.
PE	PE and Dance
Music	Brass Instruments
MFL	Mandarin A specialist Mandarin teacher will be giving the children weekly Mandarin

	lessons.
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