

St James the Great Catholic Primary School

11th January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

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

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 on Fridays, for which the children will need their full and correct PE kits, 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. I will send out further information on trips and our class assembly nearer the time. 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	<p>Grimm Tales: We will be using the Philip Pullman version of <i>Grimm Tales</i> to learn about some of the language and plot features of traditional fairy tales before writing our own fairy tales in the week before Half Term.</p> <p>The Tales of Beedle the Bard: In our Reading, lessons, we will be using this book – a collection of short stories told to young wizards and witches – to complement our work on <i>Grimm Tales</i> and to extend and develop the children’s reading skills.</p>
RE	Please see attached sheet.
Science	<p>Light: We will learn about light, how we see, shadows, reflection and refraction. We will learn how light travels and how this enables us to see objects and find out about mirrors and the angles of reflection and incidence. We will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate refraction, carrying out some experiments into the effects of bending light. Finally, we will create shadow puppet shows, using what we have learned to create a range of effects with light and shadow.</p>
Geography	<p>Mexico</p> <p>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.</p>
Computing	<p>We are website designers</p> <p>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.</p>
Art	<p>Mexican Art</p> <p>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.</p>
PE	PE and Dance
Music	Brass Instruments
MFL	<p>Mandarin</p> <p>A specialist Mandarin teacher will be giving the children weekly Mandarin lessons.</p>