

SPRING TERM

St James the Great Catholic Primary School

4th January 2022

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.

PE sessions will continue on Thursdays, 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 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
Reading	<p>Hans Christian Andersen – We will be looking at Fairy Tales, exploring use of language and making comparisons of setting, language and character across stories of the same genre.</p> <p>When the Stars Come Out – We will be using a non-fiction text all about different aspects of the night to build up our familiarity with a range of technical vocabulary and retrieving and organising information when it is presented in tables, diagrams and infographics.</p>
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>
RE	<p>Please see attached sheet.</p>
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 We will be using maps to learn about the physical 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>Film-making The children will be creating, filming and editing a shadow puppet version of a well-known fairy tale.</p>
Art	<p>Chinese Nature Paintings To coincide with Chinese New Year, we will be looking at Chinese nature paintings, and using watercolours to evoke a similar mood in our own paintings, building up our colour-mixing and colour-matching skills to create a range of carefully chosen shades and tints.</p>
PE	<p>PE and Dance</p>
Music	<p>Brass Instruments</p>
MFL	<p>Mandarin A specialist Mandarin teacher will be giving the children weekly Mandarin lessons.</p>