



Baptist Class Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a great half term break!

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the topics your child will be learning about this half-term.

English

In English, your child will have the opportunity to write for a range of purposes using some engaging texts as a starting point. We will begin by reading *Sidney, Stella and the Moon* before using a range of non-fiction texts to learn more about the moon, leading to us creating our own moon fact-files. Later in the term, we will explore some texts about heroes and use these to create wanted posters, letters, diaries, character descriptions and our own extended versions of stories.

Maths

In Maths, your child will continue to build on their work on place value and begin to explore the operations of multiplication and division. Initially your child will develop their understanding of these concepts by grouping and sharing real objects. Then they will learn to use drawings and jottings to solve calculations before moving on to more formal written methods e.g. a number line. This progression matches the steps set out in the "Year 1 and 2 Calculation Booklet" that was sent out with your child's targets at the end of the last half-term. Please refer to this when supporting your child with their learning. With all of our maths concepts, we provide your child with opportunities to apply their learning in a variety of contexts, including real life situations.

RE

During RE this half-term, your child will learn about the Sacrament of Baptism. In this topic, your child will reflect upon the groups which they are a part and what it means to belong to a group, before learning about how we are able to belong to God's family by taking part in the rituals and promises of Baptism. Later in the half-term, your child will learn how Advent is a special time to look forward to and prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas, as well as develop their understanding of key parts of the Nativity story such as, The Annunciation and The Visitation, through reading scripture and role-play.

Science

In Science, we will be continuing our work looking at Animals (including Humans). We will be looking at the life cycles of different types of animals, for example, a frog life cycle and a chicken life cycle, beginning to notice differences and similarities. We will also be learning about the stages of human development, how we grow and change over the course of our lives. As a part of this, we will have lessons on the importance of healthy eating, exercise and hygiene to keep our bodies strong as we grow up!

Geography

In geography this half-term your child will be learning about the United Kingdom. Your child will learn its location in relation to the world's continents and oceans, before investigating different features of the four countries which make up the UK, such as the capital cities, flags and national flowers. Your child will develop their map-work skills by investigating maps, atlases and globes while discussing locations with accurate compass directions.

Computing

In computing this half-term your child will continue to build on their coding experience from last half term, consolidating their understanding of sequences, while developing their understanding of how repeated sequences can be coded more efficiently using a loop. Your child will use a mix of online and unplugged, practical activities to develop their understanding and be encouraged to discuss their learning and solutions with their peers.

Art

In Art, our theme is Journeys, reflecting the journey that Mary and Joseph made prior to the birth of Jesus. In our lessons, we will be learning to express our opinions about artwork before learning to create space and texture in our work and choosing colours for effect. Your child will then create a print design of their own – using foam and pencils to create a nativity scene then print it with paint.

PE

During this half-term we will be exploring a range of dance moves and linking these together to create our own short dance phrases. Your child will explore telling a story through dance, using the Nativity and its link with our art topic of 'Journeys' to inspire them!

In Outdoor PE this term we will be learning about ball control – linked to basketball. We will practise passing and receiving the ball accurately using a bounce pass. We will practise dribbling the ball by bouncing, while making sure we can safely move into different spaces. We will begin to develop our tactics in passing to our teammate and not the other team, by developing our agility and awareness!

Your child will have indoor PE on Mondays and outdoor PE on Tuesdays. PE kits should contain tracksuit tops and bottoms, shorts, t-shirts and trainers (please ensure girls have additional socks, as they cannot take part in tights). PE kits should be brought in on a Monday and remain in school all week (please ensure that kits and the rest of their uniform is clearly marked with your child's name). We would appreciate it if you help your child practice tying their ties and laces as this encourages their independence when changing in school!

PSHE

This term, your child will learn how to keep safe on firework's night and why it is important to be environmentally friendly. They will also discuss how families look after and care for us, as well as knowing that they need to respect the differences in families. They will mark 'Anti-bullying Week' (16th – 20th November) with Odd Socks Day and take part in lessons to develop their understanding of what makes a good friend.

Music

Your child will take part in weekly music lessons with our specialist music teacher, Mr Dixon. This half term your child will be continuing to learn about how to note the difference between longer and shorter sounds and create their own sequences, while also working hard on the preparations for the upcoming Nativity performance!

Homework

Your child will receive homework each Thursday so that you have an opportunity to look over it with them and ask questions on Friday if there is anything you do not understand. Homework is always linked to the work that has been carried out in class and provides your child with a valuable opportunity to share and consolidate the learning that has taken place in school. Your child's homework will be stuck in their homework book and this book should be returned to school on Monday mornings.

Spelling lists will be given out each Tuesday and should be learnt throughout the week for a spelling test on the following Monday. Your child should practise their spellings every day to ensure they have committed them to memory and can apply them in their writing. We will be teaching your child different spelling strategies in school which they can apply at home. Each day, a column of their spelling list should be completed to ensure your child is effectively spacing out their spelling practise.

Homework Timetable

Tuesday: Spellings Sheet sent home

Thursday: Homework sent home

Monday: All homework is returned

Reading

Your child has been provided with a reading book and we hear your child read and change their books on a weekly basis. To facilitate this, please ensure your child's reading book and reading record are brought to school in their book bag every day. It is very important that you hear your child read out loud each day and ask questions about their book to check their understanding. Please do not feel you must limit your child's reading to the book sent home from school – guiding your child to explore new and different contexts such as library books, websites and newspapers can support their reading development and engagement. It is also very beneficial to your child's reading development to read out loud to your child regularly.

In addition to this, your child will also take part in guided reading sessions where they will have an opportunity to read and discuss a range of interesting texts with their peers and the teacher, to develop their knowledge of reading strategies and to promote a love of reading.

Uniform

Water bottles are a part of school uniform and something that is vitally important to help keep children's brains hydrated to help them concentrate so they can be effective in their learning. Water bottles can be purchased from the school reception for £1.50.

Please all items of your child's uniform are clearly labelled with their name. This will ensure they can be easily recovered if lost and minimise the cost of replacement. Furthermore, as the cold weather approaches, we ask that if gloves, hats and scarves are being worn that these too are labelled clearly with your child's name to help avoid mix ups! These additional items should be navy blue, as far as is possible, in line with our school uniform policy.

As always, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this letter; or any other matter of concern, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are available at the end of the day to answer quick questions, however appointments can be made via the school office to discuss any more lengthy matters.

Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Miss Crowther

(Baptist Class Teacher)