



Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

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Head Teacher: Miss Anna Smith

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you had a happy Easter and welcome back now to the start of a new term! We are delighted to be in school again. These last two terms are important for the class as we have SATs tests coming up very soon followed by lots of varied and fun events to round off their time at Holy Trinity.

Curriculum

The statutory SATs tests which all Year 6 pupils are required to take are scheduled for the week commencing Monday 11th May. The test dates and the papers for each day are scheduled as follows:

- Monday 11th May = English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2
- Tuesday 12th May = English Reading
- Wednesday 13th May = Mathematics papers 1 and 2
- Thursday 14th May = Mathematics paper 3

You may wish to see for yourself the sample tests the Government have published so that you can understand how best to support your child by going to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-2016-sample-materials>

The expectations are high and the pace of learning will be fast this term. Please refer the letter and DfE booklet sent out to you before the holiday about the National Testing which contains further details about the Year 6 SATs.

To prepare the pupils appropriately, in English we will be teaching formal grammar lessons as well as exploring a range of genres in reading and writing sessions. We have already studied 'Macbeth', 'War Horse' and started 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter'. SATs reading comprehension can be particularly challenging so we will also be incorporating elements of Guided Reading and comprehension practice regularly. You can help us by exposing your child to a range of reading material at home. Along with their reading book, do they ever pick up a newspaper or could you subscribe to a child's magazine? We hope that by talking about, and giving them a variety of texts, they will become increasingly enthused and engaged with reading. Their speed, accuracy and stamina for reading is exceptionally important whatever text they are tackling. They are constantly exposed to new genres and writing styles at school, but this can be further supported by your help at home.

In Maths we have covered most of the key areas of the curriculum, with only some elements of shape and angles left to cover before SATs. Owing to this, there are several times throughout the week where we look back on content already covered and practise key skills. However, if you feel your child needs support in specific areas, please do not hesitate to contact us and we can arrange some additional support. This year there continues to be an even greater emphasis on investigative maths in order to deepen the pupils understanding of a range of topics.

While English and Maths are understandably a key focus, our Foundation topics are equally exciting. We will be returning to History and studying how individuals have influenced civil rights over time. This is sure to be a thought-provoking topic! Our theme for RE this term looks at our understanding of God through lessons on Islam. In PSHE (after SATs) there will be a focus on transition to secondary school. In Art we are looking at expressing ourselves through a study of different artwork, while in Design and Technology we will be Navigating the World, creating digital technologies. Music continues to be provided by our steel pan expert, but there will also be some development of our own music using technology to create different music mixes. Computing this term will be developing the skills to produce music on iPads. Mrs Pow will continue to teach French as we prepare for the transition to foreign language lessons at secondary school. P.E remains on the timetable for Monday and Thursday morning with Mr. Whittle. This term the children will be keeping active with dance and athletics. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Lucas, our dance specialist, working with the children at points developing a dance for a performance during Art and Culture Week. We have two themed weeks coming up after half term. The first one is Arts and Culture, then, at the end of the year we will have our Sports Week.

On the 17th June we also have our annual Arthur Burgin Exhibition. This is a Science exhibit created by our Year 6 pupils. Further details about this event will be circulated before half term.

Of course, perhaps the most exciting thing to look forward to this term is the Devon trip. Please feel free to contact us at any point if you have any concerns or queries about our residential.

With so much happening, it promises to be another busy and challenging term, but one that the pupils are facing with an excellent growth mindset attitude.

Transition

Understandably, your child may have a mixture of feelings about transitioning to secondary school. After SATs have taken place, we will shift some of our focus on preparing to transition to another school to support the class as best we can. Wayne Dixon returns to school to deliver his 'It's Your Move' session, which has been very popular in the past. Several secondary schools have already been in contact to arrange dates to visit and meet the pupils. In PSHE we will also complete some work on the theme of transition (this will take place in Summer term 2). If you have any concerns please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to support you. Ensuring your child has an enjoyable and smooth transition to secondary school is at the forefront of our thinking as the academic year draws to a close.

Homework and Reading Diaries

Homework tasks will continue to be set using Google Classroom. The work will be marked at school independently or by me. Generally, the activities will be given on a Friday and homework books containing completed homework (whether these are printed sheets or written answers) should be handed back on Wednesday. With the transition to secondary school on the horizon, it is important the children are prepared for meeting high expectations. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.

Equally important in the preparation for SATs, as already mentioned, is regular reading. Therefore, we expect, and ask that you strongly encourage, your child to continue to read each morning or night to aid their fluency. Entries in diaries help us to monitor this so the expectations is that they are in school every day with an entry recorded.

End of day arrangements

Finally, please note that if you would like your child to walk home independently, we require written confirmation of this. If you email in, please clearly state on which days your child can walk home as we can then add this to our records. Thank you to nearly all of you who have already emailed or written in to confirm this! The class group is officially dismissed at 3:15 pm.

If you require clarification on anything, or wish to contact me or any other member of staff in our team, please email the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Redjeb

Useful websites:

BBC Bitesize KS2

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

Study Ladder

www.studyladder.co.uk

Maths

http://www.transum.org/Software/SW/Starter_of_the_day/

Woodlands Junior Maths, Literacy and Science zones

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/revision/Science/>

Spelling games

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-2016-sample-materials>