

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and that your children are looking forward to their final year at St. Mary's. I am writing to inform you of the work we will be covering in class over the next two terms, class timetable arrangements and also to let you know the dates and times of some events that will take place this term.

For maths and literacy the children in years 5 and 6 will be taught in groups, according to attainment. Homework will be set by your child's maths and literacy teachers on a weekly basis. The children have been told which groups they are currently in but we will monitor progress carefully, and move children around throughout the year, to ensure they are always in a group where they are achieving their full potential.

In literacy, we will be focussing on word classes, advanced punctuation, spelling patterns and rules. We will be thinking about narrative writing, fiction genres, poetry based around global issues, newspaper reports, play scripts and recounts. We will be looking at the text "George's Secret Key to the Universe."

Our maths topics will include place value, calculation, distance, time, fractions, area and perimeter.

In R.E. we will begin by looking at the creation story and Jesus' baptism and introduction to his public ministry, in term 2 we will study miracles, the sacrament of the sick, advent and Christmas. Many of the children will also be confirmed this year, preparation for this will take place in class, making it a very special and exciting year for us all.

Our creative curriculum topic theme is entitled 'To Infinity and Beyond...' and incorporates literacy, maths, RE, history, geography, art, ICT, DT, PSHCE, French, music and science. A curriculum map accompanies this letter in order for you to see how everything fits together.

During science lessons this term the children will learn more about the earth and the solar system. We will be conducting hands on experiments to describe the movement of the earth relative to the sun. We will also look into why we experience day and night. We will also study electricity.

Games lessons for year 5/6 will take place on a Thursday and Friday afternoon. Please make sure your child has a P.E. kit in school on this day. Swimming will be on a Monday afternoon. Please let me know in writing if your child is unable to take part in a PE or swimming lesson.

*In UKS2 the children will have some form of homework each evening.  
The homework will usually be set in accordance with the timetable below;*

<i>Given out</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Due in</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Class Homework</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Literacy</i>	<i>Monday</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Maths</i>	<i>Monday</i>

*Your child should be spending no longer than 30 minutes each evening on homework. If they are unable to complete the task in this time please write a note in their homework book to say they have worked for 30 minutes, and then allow them to stop.*

*Dates for your diary!*

*13<sup>th</sup> September - Y5 Information Meeting  
28<sup>th</sup> September - UKS2 Mass 9:30am (in school)  
18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> October - Parents' Evening  
25<sup>th</sup> November - Year 5/6 Class Assembly (9.15am)*

*I look forward to meeting you in due course but in the mean time if you have any questions or concerns please to not hesitate to contact me. I very much appreciate all you do to support and encourage your children.*

*Kind regards*

*Mrs K O'Donnell*