



St Mary's Catholic First School
Lucetta Lane, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 2DD
Tel: 01305 262258
Fax: 01305 257101



E-mail: office@stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk
Website: www.stmarysdorchester.dorset.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn



16th January 2018

Dear Parents



Happy New Year and welcome back! I trust you have all had a relaxing break and are ready for the Spring Term!



This term we are focussing a lot of our learning on the topic of Smugglers. The children have already started planning their first piece of extended writing – a Smuggler's story. We are also looking closely at the old Dorset Dialect – the poetry of William Barnes is a wonderful example of old Dorset. (You can hear them being read on YouTube). We will also look at pronouns (he, she, it, them, they, etc) so that the children learn to avoid repetition of one pronoun e.g. 'They did this, they did that, they did the next thing...'



In maths we have already had fun with Roman Numerals. We are now looking at fractions, starting with hundredths and then moving on to mixed numbers and equivalent fractions.

Science and music are combined this half term as our science topic is Sound. We also have Hannah Trevorrow from DASP coming in to teach the children some songs for the DASP concert in March. At the moment we are singing What Do I Know by Ed Sheeran, Let It Be by the Beatles and Frank Turner's The Next Storm. There may be a couple more in the pipeline.

In RE we are making our way through the Liturgical calendar: Revelation is our topic at the moment.

History and geography are all linked in with the Smugglers topic, so we will be looking at life in Dorset in the 18th Century - what children wore, what jobs they did, how smuggling influenced the coastal villages in the South West etc.

We are having a big push on reading this term, so please can you remember to read daily with your child at home and sign their reading contact books.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Mr Kay
Class Teacher

PSHE

Going For Goals.
Developing Resilience.
Setting Targets to Achieve Goals.
Recognising Barriers to achieving Goals.
Developing assertiveness in friendship role-play.

Religion

Epiphany and Feasts of Christmas.
Revelation – looking at how God reveals himself and studying the Bible story of Anna and Simeon.
Liturgy.
Daily Meditation and prayer.

History

Using historical sources to enquire about the past.
Interpreting the past and comparing/contrasting accounts through historical sources.
Developing chronological awareness by sequencing events in history.

Science

To investigate high and low pitch sounds.
To investigate how different materials can change sound.
Investigate morse code and design a smugglers sound message.

Geography

Develop understanding of map symbols and use them in a smuggler's route.
Locate on local ordnance survey map a real event from Dorset smuggling history – and trace a possible smuggler's route.

Year 4 Topic Web Spring Term 2018 - 1st half



P.E.

Team games using multi-skills.
Gymnastics – developing balances and jumps in sequences.
Dance sequences to water themes and water poetry.

Art & Design

Black and white drawings of smugglers.
Painting seascapes.
Investigating secondary and primary colours in a smuggler design.
Looking at Georgian design in the immediate environment.

Maths

Roman Numerals.
Fraction equivalence – comparing and ordering fractions.
Word problems involving fractions.
Reasoning with Fractions.
Revising calculation Strategies.
Area and Perimeter.

Literacy

Speech punctuation in smugglers scenes.
Comparing Dorset dialect with standard English.
Writing a diary entry as a Smuggler.
Writing a letter as Dorset smuggler Isaac Gulliver.
Spelling dictations and discrete lessons following No Nonsense Spellings.