



St. Thomas's
CE Primary School

Kendal Green
Kendal
Cumbria
LA9 5PP
01539 737373

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and you are ready for the exciting year ahead. The spring term is set to be a creative one with lots of exciting learning taking place.

The curriculum

Theme - Our history topic this term will be The Arts through history. We will start at the Stone Age continuing all the way through to modern day art. In the last week of term we will be having an art week where we will explore a variety different mediums of art.

Literacy - To complement our theme lessons, our writing will be based on particular texts to help engage both reading and writing about The Arts. First, we will be writing Myths and Legends focussing on mythical creatures and their use in history (Viking long boats, mermaids, gargoyles). Next, we will look at instructional writing using the Usborne book of Art Ideas. After the half term we will be writing biographies and will also explore Edward Lear's Nonsense poetry.

Reading - Children have responded very well to the teaching of reading skills in our focussed guided reading sessions. One session will focus on reading comprehension while the others on specific reading skills. We will also continue the reading challenge this term, where the children need to read five times a week for five weeks. Reading should be recorded on the Go Read App.

Maths - we will be concentrating on three key areas of fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Specifically, we will be learning about multiplication and division, area and fractions and decimals. TT Rockstars will continue daily in lessons and, in preparation for the government times table check in June this year, should be practiced regularly at home. Children should know their times tables up to 12 x 12.

Science - Our first topic will focus on sound, this will complement our theme as we will be learning about how sound is produced. In the second half of term we will be learning about living things and their habitats. This will be brought to life by exploring our school grounds.

PE - The children will have PE lessons on Thursdays this term. It is important the children have the correct uniform (trainers, pumps, blue T shirt and navy or blue shorts) on Thursdays children can come to school in their PE uniform all day. If your child is unable to take part in PE please provide a written note.

RE - In RE this term we will cover 'What did Jesus teach people about the Kingdom of God?' and Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'? At the end





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of the term we will have an Easter service in which we will make an Easter Wreath for the cross and produce a piece of art based on Easter, again complementing our theme. Each day we will have collective worship in various forms (whole school, Key Stage, class, clergy).

Values - Our class value is Humility. We will be discussing what this means, people who have demonstrated Humility, how the Bible and other texts can teach us about Humility and how we can transfer our learning into our everyday lives.

Home Learning - Home Learning will continue to be uploaded on to Seesaw, they will receive a maths task and a literacy task. Children should also practice their spellings, read and practice their times tables regularly at home. Please encourage your child to come and speak to me if they do not know how to complete their home learning.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to talk to me. This can be done informally at the end of the school day, by email (chris.pemberton@stthomas.cumbria.sch.uk) or a message on Seesaw.

Kind regards

Chris Pemberton

