

# AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTERS

## Nursery

Dear parents and carers,

We hope that you and your children have enjoyed our first full term together. We have been excited this term as it is the run up to Christmas. The children have been fantastic, especially with their learning, the nativity songs and finally the Christmas performance! They really did an amazing job and we are very proud of them all. Although it was a little overwhelming for some, others really seemed to enjoy the limelight. This term we have also been doing lots of Christmas crafts which we hope you will enjoy. We also saw some real reindeer – they were amazing! During R.E we learnt all about the story of the first Christmas and who we would like to give gifts to and why.

This half term we have read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. We all love this book as it is great for numbers and sequencing, and enables us to do lots of art. We have painted the story and have it hanging in our class! We also did some story mapping which the children were really good at and started to step our story as well. The children were also able to re tell the story. We have also been learning the nursery rhyme *Hey Diddle, Diddle* which the children love and finding out what a fiddle is.

We have and will be continuing with writing the first letter of our names as the children become more confident. Our focus will be on pencil grip - if you could continue helping your child to recognise their name that would be great.

In maths we have learnt to say the numbers in the correct order and working out the best way to count an amount of objects as well as 1-1 correspondence. We are beginning to use the language “more” and “less” when looking at groups of objects.

Along with all this we have continued with phonics, *Think Equal*, understanding the world and singing, we are sure your children are now ready for a break so enjoy them for the next couple of weeks they are amazing!

We hope you and your family have a happy and safe break and we will see you in 2023!

Mrs Simpson and the nursery team



## Reception

This half term Reception have been solidifying their friendships and practicing kindness. We learnt the story of The Gingerbread Man and used this to help us unpick the basic structure of writing instructions.

We have now covered all 23 phase 2 phonic sounds and are enthusiastically practising our blending and segmenting skills. It has been fantastic to see so many children applying their phonological skills at home and engage with our online phonic platform 'Bug Club'. This really has helped to build their independence and self-confidence; keep up the fantastic work! This term we also commenced our guided reading groups and it has been an absolute pleasure to have that 'small group' focused time with the children and to develop a shared love of reading and witness them take ownership of their reading and begin to bloom. We are **very** proud of the confidence and enthusiasm the children exhibit in their reading.

In numeracy, the children have consolidated their understanding of the composition of numbers 1-5 and are beginning to confidently use their understanding of number to help recognise quantities. We have been using number facts and our fingers to help us with our counting, and Reception have enjoyed playing a range of board games that focused on developing their counting, sequencing and strategies skills. Snakes and Ladders and Bingo have been a particular hit with the class!

In our RE sessions, we have been focussing on the celebrations of Christmas. This term we have been thinking about equality, empathy and developing a sense of who we are. We have enjoyed reflecting on attributes that makes us special in our own unique way, as well as those that unify us all.

We hope that you are as proud of the children as we are with their fantastic learning; they all have been working extremely hard but most importantly we have also had the most amazing **fun and have laughed together plenty!**



*"This term I have enjoyed reading Bug Club books." – Rahela*

*"I have enjoyed my phonics and learning new sounds." – Hunter*

*"This term my favourite thing was learning maths." – Brenden*

*"I enjoyed celebrating Christmas." – O'Shea*

*"I enjoyed the Gingerbread Man story." – Giorgio*

*"I enjoyed doing PE." - Ameerah*

Have a fantastic and safe holiday and a lovely Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all after the holidays.

Miss Jacob, Miss Montaz and Miss Shaheen



# Year 1

The children in Year 1 have done SO much learning this half term and have worked incredibly hard: being imaginative, challenging themselves, aiming for greater depth and having a positive attitude towards their learning. During this half term, we have been reading *'The Robot and the Bluebird'* by David Lucas and have used it to write different types of texts such as, diary entries, instruction writing and persuasive letters. Year 1 have also learnt many grammar techniques which they have been implementing into all areas of work in English. The amazing work Year 1 have produced is due to their enthusiasm towards their Phonics. They are doing so well and we have now completed Phase 4 and ready for phase 5.

Year 1 have been using different representations in Maths to show how to add and subtract within 10. They have become confident in using ten frames, part whole model and number lines to answer their number sentences. They have also been learning about 2D shapes and 3D shapes and recognising the differences and similarities and the properties of each shape.

In science, the children really enjoyed learning about the human body. They looked closely at how they move, their five senses and different bones and organs within their body.

In RE, we have been learning all about 'Why Christmas is important to Christians?' and I cannot express how well they have done in this subject. They have stepped out the Christmas story in a performance, making a mind map of the story as well as making a class Advent calendar where they have made their own good deeds to put into the calendar. .

Finally, in Geography and History we have been focusing on our memory box and building our knowledge on timelines, our favourite toys and comparing toys from the past. This learning fitted in well with the schools birthday where we looked at how schools used to look compared to now.

Year 1 loved making their own class birthday timeline and liked working out who was younger and older than them.

I hope you all enjoyed their Christmas performance as they all worked so hard. Hope you all have a wonderful holiday and a happy new year and we look forward to welcoming the children back for more fun learning in Spring 1.

Miss Atiya and the Year 1 Team





## Year 2



Merry Christmas All!! The year 2 team have enjoyed working with the children this term learning about a range of topics and having some great experiences. The children have worked extremely hard and we are all so proud of them! We are looking forward to the great achievements that they will make next year.



### What have we learnt this half term?

#### English

This half term the children used the story of George's Marvelous Medicine by Roald Dahl as the base for their English learning. They wrote character descriptions, witness statements and explored various storytelling techniques in order to support their writing. The children had plenty of time to develop their ideas before writing their own narratives over the course of the half term.

Once they completed their own narratives, they looked at Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen.

They continued to practice their phonics, their handwriting and learnt new spelling and grammar rules.

#### Science

The children became little masterchefs this term exploring different types of food groups. They learnt how germs spread and conducted some fun and interesting experiments which hopefully helped their understanding.

#### R.E.

The children answered the key question of 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' We used the story of the birth of Jesus to support our learning.

#### Maths

The children learnt how to add and subtract numbers this term and followed on to learn about shapes. They also continued to practise their times tables and number bonds. They had plenty of opportunities to use resources in class to support them with their learning.

#### History/Geography

The children learnt about Florence Nightingale in History and her life. In Geography they explored weather seasons.

**Important Reminders for next year – Please make sure that your child has their P.E. on Wednesday and Friday.**

**Home learning will be sent out each week, please support your child with this!**

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**Mrs Amoah and the year 2 team!**

Have an amazing Christmas and New year!



## Year 3

Wow! What a busy Autumn term 2 we have had in Year 3! How to summarize it into one newsletter will be tough- but Year 3 are always up for a challenge!



We love learning here in Year 3 and to prove that we have been building our knowledge in all academic areas this term. From reading the classic *Odysseus* to writing persuasive texts in English and learning times tables and partitioning numbers in maths, our brains are growing bigger and bigger with knowledge!



Aside from maths and English, we experimented with magnets, studied forces and understood the importance of water during our RE lessons.



And you think we're done there!? Oh no! Apart from all that learning, we had so much fun rehearsing for our Christmas show- watch out Hollywood, Year 3 are up and coming Super Stars! We had a visit from two very cute reindeer, played games at our Christmas fair, received gifts from a *very special* visitor, dressed up for Victorian day, created snow sculptures, sang countless holiday tunes, baked bread, participated in the Christingle ceremony and crafted beautiful art work.

Phew! I think you'll all agree, Year 3 have worked tirelessly over the last term and I think they definitely deserve a rest! Not only do they work so hard, but they are kind and considerate children and as their grown-ups, you should be so proud of them, as we all are.

From all of us here in Year 3, we would like to wish all our St. Saviours families a safe, happy and restful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. The Year 3 Team

### ***What did you love about Autumn Term 2?***

*"I liked when we had to do lines for 'punishment' during Victorian Day and learning to write like they did!" – Rose (Note: this wasn't a real punishment!!!)*

*"Learning how to take seeds from tomatoes and peppers during gardening"- Alex*

*"Learning the column method in maths" – Crimson*

*"Making calendars with Mr. Roland" – Aaliyah*



## YEAR 4



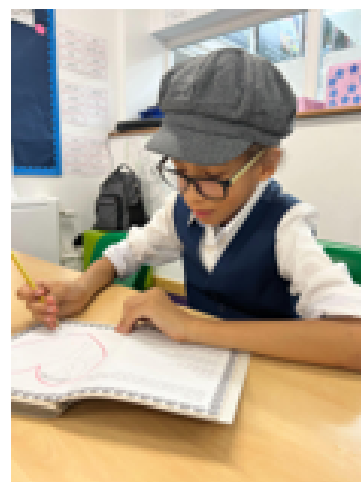
This half term, Year 4 travelled back to 1066, probably the most famous date in English history. We have completed some fantastic pieces of writing inspired by our class text, *The Tinderbox*, including diary entries, newspaper reports, and biographies.

In Maths, we have studied multiplication and division, perimeter and area, and *lots* of times tables - including almost-daily sessions on Times Tables Rockstar's! By the summer, we are hoping to all be completely fluent in multiplication and division, ready for our times tables test.

In History, we looked at everyday life in Norman times, sequenced the Battle of Hastings, looked at the Bayeux Tapestry, and created fact files on Norman castles, including Motte and Bailey castles.

Some of the big questions we pondered in Philosophy for Children this half term were:

- Is it better to do what you think is right or to follow the rules?
- Is the mind more powerful than reality?
- Is a human life more valuable than an animal's?
- Can you have too much power?
- Should you always trust others?



In amongst all of our learning, we squeezed in many Christmas celebrations; a nativity performance, carol singing, a Christingle service – and a special festive school trip to Canary Wharf. December 1<sup>st</sup> saw us celebrate our 157<sup>th</sup> birthday with Victorian-style celebrations – and cake!

We hope all the children have enjoyed the half term as much as we have and that you all have a restful break over the Christmas period. We look forward to seeing you all in 2023 – wishing you a happy and healthy time together at home.

**The Year 4 Team :)**



## Year 5



The pupils in Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this half term: being creative, persevering when they have found new concepts challenging, sharing and discussing ideas, challenging themselves and all having a great attitude to learning despite the current climate. During this half term, we have immersed ourselves in the topic 'Space'...



In maths, we have had a curriculum focus of multiplication, division and spent a very long time recapping fractions! Some of the class have even conducted their own fractions investigation where they carried out a survey and used the results to convert fractions into decimals and percentages!



In English, we have loved reading our class book 'Cosmic' and have designed persuasive posters for our own theme parks, and written gripping newspaper reports about Liam and Florida going missing! To finish the term, we've researched the moon landing of 1969 and written another newspaper report about this historical event, just to consolidate and refine our report-writing skills.



Over the last week, we have had plenty of Christmas 'craft' fun and we have been rehearsing our Christmas songs and performance of Cinderella. Since September, all of the children have made fantastic progress and they should be extremely proud of themselves, as we certainly are!



### What did you enjoy learning this half term?

"Learning about the 1969 moon landing!" - Ben

"Learning about adding fractions to mixed numbers" - Lexi

"Researching a courageous advocate and helping people with their newspaper reports" - Logan

"I loved learning about space and how you can halve a fraction to create another fraction" - Chloe

"The new vocabulary for space - like axis and astronomer" - Riley

"Everything! But mainly adding fractions in maths" - Bertie

"Maths because sometimes it was a bit challenging and it was helping me to get to a higher level in

maths" - Alfie H



We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas!  
Miss Dooley, Ms Harris and Miss McGregor :)



## Year 6

This half term the children in Year 6 have been full of the joys of Christmas and been very busy in preparing for the Christmas performance which we hope you have all enjoyed this week.

The children completed their learning around the text Fox in their English learning where they worked on improving their vocabulary and using this in their writing. At the end of the unit, the children invented their own stories and wrote these. As a class we have also been working on our reading where we have read many different genres of text and once again, broadened their vocabulary and answering questions based on the text. This is something that will come in handy for when the children sit their SATs in May. Well done to all those children who have been practicing their spellings weekly, this will not only help improve their reading but will also make their writing stand out more in the long run!

In Maths we have covered fractions and will finish this learning off in the first week of the new year. The children have been revising and building on their learning from Year 5, including adding, taking away and multiplying fractions. We have also introduced weekly arithmetic tests so that the children become more familiar with these and the type of questions that they will be answering in the SATs arithmetic paper. Please do continue to support your child in their practicing of their times-tables on Times Tables Rockstar's. We are currently being beaten by some of the children from Year 5 and we want Year 6 to be much higher in the school's league table.



In R.E. the children looked at the key question of 'What would Jesus do?' The children started this unit with learning the story of The Sermon on the Mount and then used Jesus' teachings to see how modern-day charities and foundations use these teachings in their day to day activities.



We also can't forget about the learning the children have completed this half term around local courageous advocates in preparation for the school's birthday celebrations. The children were researching the work of William Booth and Tommy Flowers and the impact that they have had on our world.

In Science and humanities, the children have explored light and how light travels whilst in History and Geography the children were learning all about Mexico and the Chihuahuan Desert.

It has been an incredibly busy half term (as it always is in the run up to Christmas) and the children have shown some fantastic resilience throughout. For now, though, we wish all the children and yourselves a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Mr. Dunford and the Year 6 team.





**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**