



Ruby Class Newsletter
Thorpe Church of England Primary School
Faith, Love and Excellence

Autumn Term September 2024

Dear New Ruby Class Parents and Carers for September 2024,

As we come to the end of this academic year, we thought it would be useful for you to have the following information before the summer holiday so that you are able to be fully informed regarding PE days, Curriculum, Home learning & reading as well as any equipment your child may need when they join Ruby Class in September.

We look forward to working with you to make your child's time in Year 2 successful.

Best Wishes

Mrs George and Mrs Graham

Key dates:

Monday 2nd September: INSET day

Tuesday 3rd September: INSET day

Wednesday 4th September: First day of term.

Thursday 5th September: Meet the Team evening-6.00 pm.

Friday 4th October: Harvest Service

OUR LEARNING

Our topic for the Autumn 1 half term is '*Marvelous Me*'.

Our focus in **English** for Autumn 1 will be:

- Story Writing
- Writing explanation texts linked to our topic on animals
- We will also continue our daily phonics work, paired reading and work on comprehension exercises.

In **Maths** we will be working through our Mastering Number program daily to help secure arithmetic skills. We will also be working on:

- Number and Place Value with numbers up to 100.
- Bonds to 10 and then 20
- Bonds to 100 (tens)
- Adding and subtracting ones, three one digit numbers and across a 10.

Science: What do animals need to survive and grow healthily? We will be exploring what animals (including humans) need to survive and grow healthily. We will explore the basic needs of animals, growth and life cycles, healthy eating and exercise.

RE: What is God like for Christians? We will be exploring how most Christians see and experience God as a guide and a shepherd. We will consider how friends and followers of God speak about God with a focus on the parable of 'The Lost Sheep'.

Geography: What is the area around our school like? We will learning about Thorpe and use maps to explore physical and human features. We will learn about how the local land is used and then compare Thorpe's geographical features to London.

D&T: How can fabric be joined securely? We will be investigating different puppets and explore features and explore how they are made and how they move. We will be designing, making and evaluating finger puppets and sock puppets using different joining techniques.

PE: Real PE and Real Gym: Children will focus on co-ordination and balance during our PE lessons this half-term.

Music: Playing together: We will explore the pulse and rhythm of different songs and explore how musicians play together as a band. We will learn to sing different songs, including songs for Harvest.

Home Learning:

Home learning is a very important part of school life and the children will continue to need **your** support to complete their tasks.

Home learning will include reading, spellings, maths games and topic-based work.

How can you help your child in their learning?

As you know, your involvement in your child's learning is very important to enable them to achieve their full potential.

Most importantly **READ, READ, READ!** Reading to and with your child every evening for at least 10 minutes can make a dramatic difference to a child's achievement within school. A report from the Oxford University Press highlighted the importance of parents reading with their children. *'Children who read outside of class are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age'*.

The report also offers six tips for reading with your child at home, including

1. Make time to read - even ten minutes a day
2. Choose different types of books - fiction, non-fiction and poetry
3. Take turns to reads
4. Talk about the book and what is happening, asking your child questions
5. Pay attention to the language - discuss the meaning of unfamiliar words, think of alternative words or opposite words
6. Enjoy reading and be good reading role models

Once a child has finished the book, ask them questions to check their understanding of what they have read.

Spellings/Phonics - On a **Tuesday** we will send home a word list of focus sounds and spelling examples for the week in a spelling book which needs to be returned every **Monday** so new words can be stuck in. It would be good to discuss the words in the book with your child, getting them to sound out and blend them. You can think of and/or write other word examples for each grapheme and encourage your child to write one or two sentences with some of the focus words.

In addition, your child will come home with 'I can blend' words each **Tuesday** linked to the phonics learning in class. Please help your child to sound and blend these words.

It would also be beneficial to help your child read and spell the **Year 1 & 2 Common Exception words**. Maybe you could ask your child to say and/or write **one sentence a day** with a Year 1 or 2 word in.

Maths. A dig1t game will be sent home fortnightly to play at home. We also recommend the White Rose 1 Minute Maths app which can be downloaded for free on the Amazon, Google Play or Apple App Store. A login for MathShed will be given out in September where the children can work through the lessons and quizzes at their own pace.

Home Learning Activities - A separate grid will be sent home containing **six** activities linked to our class work. Please complete at least one activity of your child's choice from the grid for this half term (they can of course complete more than one if they wish). Home Learning can be brought in at any time and we will celebrate it in class at the earliest opportunity.

Library - The children will have the opportunity to choose a library book every Friday.

PE

Our **PE** lessons will be on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. Please ensure that your child wears their **correct school uniform** PE Kit in school: Yellow T-shirts, Royal Blue or Navy Tracksuit Trousers (no logos), Black or Navy leggings, Navy shorts, Trainers or Black Plimsoll shoes). Please ensure long hair is tied back and no earrings are worn on PE days.

Marvellous Me

In Ruby Class we have a 'Marvellous Me' bag. Each week a child will be selected to fill the bag with an item that is special to them. The item should have a story behind it so it can be shared with the rest of the class.

The aim of the 'Marvellous Me' bag is to encourage children to think about who or what is special to them. This activity aims to encourage children to talk about what makes them marvellous in addition to being a valuable speaking and listening activity. This will take place on **Fridays**.

Design and Technology This half term we will be making sock puppets. Please can your child bring an old sock in for this project.

Please ensure that the children have these items at school with them every day and they are **named** clearly:

- A bottle of water
- A healthy snack - fresh fruit or vegetables are best
- Their reading book and home school link book.

Where do things go?

Please put any lunch boxes and snack boxes into the tubs provided outside of the classroom. The children can bring their water bottles into class and put them in the yellow trays.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see us. You can also email us at rubbyclass@thorpe.surrey.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as we can.