



St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Spring Term. I hope you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. This will be a busy term at St Gabriel's for Year Six, with lots of hard work ahead over the next few weeks.

Boosters

Booster sessions for maths will take place on Tuesdays for any children who have been invited to attend. The first session will take place on Tuesday 13th January from 3:10-4pm.

Reading

Please encourage your child to read for 20 minutes per day in order to build up their reading stamina. If your child struggles to read for this length of time, they will find the SATs reading comprehension challenging. There is plenty of time left to build up reading stamina now. Please encourage your child to write in their reading record every day about what they have read. Also remember that your child is not too old to be read to at bedtime! You have an important role to play when modelling how to read expressively out loud.

History & Geography

This term we will be starting with a history unit called, 'The Kingdom of Benin'. This will be followed by a geography unit called 'Exploring Africa'.

Maths & English

In maths we will continue to use our scheme, Power Maths, to work on arithmetic, reasoning and problem solving. Topics will include imperial and metric measures; ratio and proportion; decimals and percentages; algebra; perimeter, area and volume.

In English we will use the text 'Children of the Benin Kingdom' by Dinah Orji. This exciting text will provide a multitude of opportunities to write creatively and develop our love of writing for an audience. We will also be looking at some poetry by Ted Hughes and John Agard. Reading comprehensions will dip into a range of classic novels and non-fiction texts. We will be looking at grammar in context and building our vocabulary of powerful verbs, adjectives and adverbs. Spelling tests will continue on Thursdays.



Religion

Our religion topics this term will be, 'Galilee to Jerusalem' and 'Desert to Garden'. More details about the learning objectives for these topics can be found on the Year 6 page of the school website.

Science

Our topic will be 'The Circulatory System'. During this topic, we will identify how the heart and lungs work together, and we will carry out a heart dissection using pigs' hearts. We will also be listening to the audio book 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman.

Stanley Head

We are all looking forward to our residential to Stanley Head on Monday 19th January. Please now make sure that all monies are paid in full and both the behaviour form and medical form have been handed in. Unfortunately, we will not be able to take your child without these completed forms. If you have lost these forms, please get in touch as soon as possible for replacements.

P.E.

P.E. will continue twice a week – on Mondays and Fridays. Children may come to school in their kits on Mondays and change into school uniform at lunchtimes. On Fridays, the opposite occurs where children change into their P.E. kits at lunchtimes and go home in them.

Homework

Maths and Reading Comprehension homework will continue to be sent home on Fridays and will be marked in class on Friday mornings. Spellings will also go home on Fridays and will be tested on Thursdays. Your child's reading record should also go home on Fridays for signing. All homework and events will be written in your child's planner. Homework will also be detailed on the school website on the Year 6 page.

Leavers' Hoodies

After the February half term, we will measure up your child for their Leavers' Hoodie. These will then be ordered in time for the Easter holiday. After Easter, your child will then be able to wear these hoodies in school in place of their school jumper.

Parent/teacher consultations

We have a provisional date in the diary for Thursday 12th February for these meetings. More information to follow. If your child has a School Support Plan (SSP) you may wish to have a longer meeting. Please get in touch and we can arrange this at your convenience.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Warm regards

Ms M Dickenson

