

## RE and PSHE

In RE this half term, we will be focusing on the question:

**'How do art and music convey Christmas?'**

We will be observing different pieces of religious art and listening to Christmas carols along with more modern Christmas music to answer this question.

In PSHE, we will be looking at **'Dreams and goals'** which focuses on what we would like to achieve and what steps we need to take to get there.



## Homework

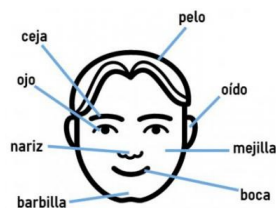
Homework will be handed out each week on a **Friday on Google classrooms**. Children should complete the homework in their books with the expectation that it will be returned to school by **Tuesday**.



## Spanish

Year 5 will be continuing to learn Spanish this year and their unit this half term is the **'All about me'**. We will be focusing on learning the different parts of the face and body as well as adjectives to describe these!

Towards the end of the half term, we will be learning all about Christmas traditions in Spain and comparing them to our own.



## Oracy

We will continue to work on our ability to express ourselves verbally through our next Oracy Day.

This will take place on Friday 13th December and once again, we will welcome our parents and carers into class to participate in our class debate. We will use the feedback provided by parents and carers to improve our speaking and listening skills, as well as showcase our geography learning from this half term.



# St John and St James C of E Primary School Class Newsletter

## Welcome to back to school!

I hope you all had a restful half term. We have a fantastic half term planned and we are looking forward to the exciting weeks ahead.

## Key dates

Trip - The National Gallery  
29.11.24

Christmas Fair  
6.12.24

Christmas Disco  
18.12.24

Christmas Performance at Church  
18.12.24

## Library and Home Reading

All children must be reading for at least **20 minutes** each night and recording this in their home reading journal, to be marked by Miss Barrett every morning.

The library is open for all children at lunch time for children to take AR tests and to change their reading books when complete.



## PE

PE is on Thursday morning. The focus this term will be tag rugby.

**Full PE kits must be worn. This includes: a green t-shirt and black tracksuit bottoms or shorts.**  
Children can wear these to school.

## Science

Our science unit this half term is:

### 'Forces'

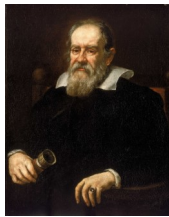
Building on the children's prior learning from year 3 about forces and magnets, we will be conducting practical scientific enquiries every lesson and learning all about:

- Forces as pushes or pulls
- The force of gravity
- The effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction
- Mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears.

Key vocabulary we will be using is: gravity, resistance, friction, mechanism, drag

Our key scientist is **Galileo**

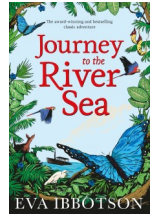
Galileo was an Italian scientist. His most famous scientific experiment was when he dropped two objects of different weights from the leaning tower of Pisa to see if they fell at the same speed. He is also famous for discovering the telescope!



## English

Our class reader this half term is:

'Journey to the River Sea'  
by Eva Ibbotson



We will begin the half term writing a poem based on our class text, using a range of figurative language!

Our punctuation and grammar focusses are:

- Using fronted adverbials
- Using -ing sentence starters
- Using subordinate clauses

Our spellings focus is suffixes including:

- -able
- -ably
- -ible
- -ibly

Log into EdShed to practise spellings at home! Log ins are at the front of your homework book.



## Humanities

This half term, our geography topic is:

'China'



Year 5 will be using China as a focus point to develop their knowledge of the physical geography of rivers and mountains. We will be using maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping tools to locate mountains and rivers and understand how they are formed. We will be looking at the River Yangtze in China as well as Mount Everest and The Himalayas Mountains.

We will also embark on fieldwork to help us answer our key question:

'Why are rivers so important?'

Key vocabulary we will be using is: latitude, longitude, mountain, river, source, tributary, confluence, mouth, meander, erosion

## Maths

The fundamentals that we will be focusing on this half term are:

### Multiplication and division

- Multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.

### Fractions, decimals and percentages

- Read, write, order and compare fractions.
- Recognise equivalent fractions.
- Add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators.
- Add and subtract improper fractions and mixed numbers.

As always, continue to practise your times tables fluency by using Times Tables Rockstars for 10 minutes every night.

