

## Reading



When listening to your child read, please encourage them to use the picture clues and the initial sounds to help them locate words and, where applicable, use their phonics to sound out words.

Please ensure books are in their book bag every day.

## Keywords

If your child has come home with keywords please continue to practise these at home regularly. These will be checked each time the teachers read with them. You do not need to send these back into school so please keep them at home.

## Library books



A reminder that we change the children's library books every Friday.

Please only send them in on this day as unfortunately most of the books do not fit inside the children's folders.

## RE



In RE this term we will be looking at the theme of 'Celebrating Birthdays'. We will learn how we celebrate birthdays in our families and then move onto learning how Christians celebrate Jesus' birthday at Christmas.

## Want to help at home?

If you have any versions of traditional stories at home, please read them with your child so they can compare different versions. Can they:

- sequence the story?
- retell it using known repeated phrases?
- draw a story map?
- build the setting e.g. castle, straw house?
- tell the story using puppets?
- learn any songs about the story?



Our topic this half term is:

## **Terrific Tales**



## Topic learning

We will start the term with a week focussing on Autumn, Diwali and Bonfire Night, then we will start our topic for this half term; Terrific Tales.

We will focus on each of these stories, one week at a time:

- Little Red Riding Hood
- Jack and the Beanstalk
- The 3 Little Pigs
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- Hansel and Gretel

We will explore the characters and setting in each story and retell the stories in different ways. Our Discovery Time learning will be linked to these stories too.

We will also have lots of festive fun with our learning in the weeks leading up to Christmas: getting crafty, singing songs and learning about different Christmas traditions.

## Maths



This term we will start using 'Numberblocks' to support our learning as we meet characters 1 to 5.

We will also spend time focussing on sorting objects and numbers using different criteria, looking for patterns with number and comparing sets. Our focus continues to be on developing the children's ability to explain their reasoning and understanding.

## Phonics (Read Write Inc)



So far, we have taught the sounds **masdt inigo ckub fel** and we will continue teaching individual sounds to the children using the Read Write Inc. sounds and picture clues. Please refer to your child's sound card bag which was in their summer activity pack. To help at home please continue to add more pictures, with your child, to their 'Sounds Book'.

Each week we also practise reading CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words and building CVC words using the sounds we have learned so far. Can they practise this at home?

## Communication



You are welcome to talk to us to pass on a message at drop off time or at pick up time. If you are unable to speak to us at the door then you can contact us via email at [yearr@stmarksce.org.uk](mailto:yearr@stmarksce.org.uk)

We check this account daily after school:

If you need to get a message to us during the school day, or you have any admin or financial queries you will need to contact the office on [adminoffice@st-markscofe.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@st-markscofe.hants.sch.uk) or call 01256 346111.