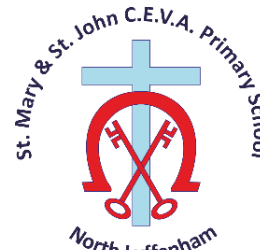


St. Mary & St. John

Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

North Luffenham, Rutland



Headteacher: Mrs Fiona Wilce

November 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term at St. Mary and St. John. We have a busy and exciting half term ahead of us in the run up to Christmas. This is always a favourite term of mine!

Our enquiry question this term will be:

What is a celebration?

We will continue to follow our nature study themes as well as learning about Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas.

This term we also welcome Mrs Oliver as a new member of staff to our reception team, I am sure you will get to know her at morning drop off.

Later this term I will be sending the children home with a picture book each. Please use these books as an opportunity to encourage your child to make up a story from the pictures. This is a really important skill for reading and writing development. Once your child is secure and confident in knowing all of their Set 1 sounds they will receive a reading book. Please record anything you do on the GoRead app- more details of how to access this will follow shortly. You can also record other books which you have shared together at home.

This term we will continue our phonics programme (Read Write Inc). After we have learnt each new sound I will continue to send home a sheet telling you what the sound is and how the letter is formed. This is not compulsory homework but gives you an idea of what we have been doing and gives the option for practise at home. I am planning to hold a parents meeting about phonics this term on **Tuesday 21st November 5pm**. This meeting will cover information about our Read Write Inc Phonics Programme. If you are able to attend please can you email or send a message on dojo to confirm. The power point will be available to anyone who is unable to make this date. I will also start sending home our class story maps that we create as part of our 'Talk for writing' sessions so please encourage your child to re tell the story using the pictures and actions we have learnt at school.

With the weather changing and us wanting the children to have as much access to the outdoors as possible, often for long periods of time, please can I request that all children have a pair of waterproof trousers, a warm coat, a waterproof coat, hat, gloves and a scarf. Please can I also ask that these items are all named. We like to keep all of these at school in boxes by their pegs so we are ready for anything! If you are struggling with anything please let me know and we will do the best we can to support you.

Please can I remind you that we are a healthy eating school and that all snacks should adhere to this. We encourage the children to eat a variety of fruit and vegetable snacks, fruit bars and dairy items for their morning or afternoon snack alongside the free fruit/vegetable and milk option provided by the school. We often discuss how to keep healthy at school and why this is important. Please can the children also have a filled water bottle in school each day.

Finally, here is a list of the key dates for this term, please note the date of our all-important Nativity which I am sure the children will thoroughly enjoy and our 'come and see what we've been learning' parents afternoon.

KEY DATES

Monday 13th November- Odd sock day for the beginning of Anti-bullying week.

Friday 17th November- Children in Need (wear something spotty!)

Tuesday 21st November -Phonics Meeting

Friday 1st December Christmas Jumper day for chocolate

Thursday 7th December- Come and see what we've been learning (Reception classroom, 2:30pm)

Friday 8th December- Christmas Decorations morning

Thursday 14th December- Reception Nativity 9:20am in the Church

Monday 18th December Christmas lunch and Christmas Service

Tuesday 19th December Carols round the Tree

Please note all dates were correct at time of writing, please consult the school newsletter for further timings/events and for any changes.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me on:

louise.gamble@northluffenham.rutland.sch.uk or contact me via class dojo.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Louise Gamble

Church Street, North Luffenham, Nr. Oakham, Rutland. LE15 8JR

Telephone: 01780 720184 • Email: office@northluffenham.rutland.sch.uk • Website: www.northluffenham.org

Let your light shine Matthew 5:16

