

Cavendish Church of England Primary School

Information for Parents
Autumn Term 2020

Mars Class

Celebrations and Festivals



Mrs Lewis

Challenge, Creativity, Compassion: Create a pure heart in me - Psalm 51:10

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our new term and a new school year. I hope that this leaflet will provide a helpful overview of the learning for the term in this challenging Covid-19 period. Our topic for the autumn term will be 'Celebrations and Festivals.' We look at different festivals celebrated by different cultures and why they are celebrated. We will learn about the Christian Harvest Festival, the Jewish Festival of the Tabernacles, Sukkot, followed by the Gunpowder Plot and the importance of democracy. We will observe Remembrance Day and then we will learn about the Hindu festival of Diwali, finishing with Christmas, and the birth of Jesus. Our RE topic for the term is "Why is the Word of God so important to Christians?"

During PSHE we will be looking at 'My Role in the Community' and 'Democracy and the Rule of Law'. The areas of art, PSHE, design technology and Computing will be taught in a cross-curricular manner. Mathematics and English will follow the national strategy for foundation stage and will involve a mix of child and adult initiated activities.

In Collective Worship this term will be looking at "Friendship" and "Responsibility." PE will take place on a Wednesday. Long hair will need to be tied back and earrings removed at home in preparation for PE lessons. PE will happen again during the week, therefore your child will need their PE kit in school. We will be the only class bringing a PE kit into school to change at school as it is part of the curriculum to assess a pupil being able to undress and dress themselves. Please encourage your child to dress and undress themselves. PE kits will stay at school until half term to limit the transfer of infections. French and Music are taught throughout the school and your child will have regular French and music lessons. French will focus on simple greetings and songs and Music on rhythm, percussion and the singing of nursery rhymes.

At first, your child will bring home books for you to share together. Our first set of phonemes are, s,a,t,p,i and n. When your child is ready, they will also bring home sound cards and phonic based books linked to class learning. I hope you can share these with your child and return the books each Monday. Your child will also have a reading record. This is for reading activities that take place at home. Please keep a record for yourself on these and they are for you to keep at home during this COVID - 19 period. Please note that reading at school is recorded separately and we will use books at the same level your child's reading ability has reached. I cannot stress the importance of daily reading at home to ensure rapid reading progress. Please refer to the PowerPoint notes that I gave you at our transition meeting on The Cavendish Green and the note which will accompany this Mars Class Information note. Please access the Oxford Reading Tree that has links on our Cavendish CofE Primary School website. There is a wealth of material on it to help you support your child's phonic and reading ability such as correct phonetic pronunciation and many books to read with your child. The website address is <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>. Another invaluable online resource that you have as Cavendish parents and carers is Discovery Education. The web address is <https://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk>. Then click on **espresso**. The username is **student28099** and the password is **Bluebell**. I cannot express how very helpful this website is for many areas of the Foundation Stage curriculum. Click on **Foundation** and enjoy exploring it. I will be using it often and the children will be very familiar with it.

The school provides a free school snack to EYFS and KS 1 pupils daily. You can, however, send in a more substantial snack if your child gets hungry, but please follow healthy guidelines.

Please ensure that your child bring a coat and wears suitable footwear every day. For the adventures of 'Fresh Air Friday', we will be out in all weathers, well nearly all, so Wellington boots will be essential. The school provides waterproof trousers. All personal items must be clearly named.

Lunch for EYFS and KS 1 is free. We will be offering the full school lunch menu. A combination of packed lunch and school lunch is absolutely fine too. Children will tell me at the beginning of each day what their preference is for each day to develop children's responsibility.

I am looking forward to lots of learning and fun this year and I thank you for your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come to talk to me at the end of the day. If it is a personal issue, please email the office admin@cavendish.suffolk.sch.uk and I will telephone you or reply by email as soon as possible.

Mrs Lewis