

St Thomas More Primary

Spring Term 3 2019

Information Sheet for Parents or Guardians of Key Stage 2

	Year 5	Year 6
Class Teacher	Miss E Carter	Mrs L Doda
Teaching Assistants	Mrs A Lawrence	Mrs D Heap Mrs J Knight
School begins at 8.50am and ends at 3.15pm . Please make sure your child is at school on time and that he/she is collected on time. Thank you.		

Please remember to inform the school office of any change of address, home telephone number, mobile telephone number, or any other emergency contact or medical information.

Introduction: Welcome back! We hope you have all had a wonderful break! We have produced this letter as a way of keeping you informed of all the wonderful things we are hoping to achieve this term.

GOSPEL VIRTUES	GROWTH MINDSET	BRITISH VALUES
Eloquent and Truthful	As a school we will continue to use the Growth Mindset approach to continue to help the children to challenge themselves and aim high with their learning.	Mutual Respect

Please Remember:					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE	Year 6: PE Outdoor Netball and Hockey	Year 5: Outdoor Hockey	Year 5: Indoor PE Year 6: PE Indoor Athletics		
Homework set including <u>daily reading</u>	Year 6: Written Spellings Reading Spellings Times Tables Year 5: Reading Spelling	Year 6: Grammar Reading Spellings Times Tables Year 5: Reading Spelling	Year 6: Maths/English Reading Spellings Times Tables Year 5: Reading Spelling	Year 6: Reading Comprehension Reading Spellings Times Tables Year 5: Reading Spelling	Year 6: Arithmetic Reading Spellings Times Tables Year 5: Reading Spelling Shed Arithmetic Grammar

This term our topic is: The Shang Dynasty of Ancient China

	Class: Year 5	Class: Year 6
RE	Baptism and Confirmation Lent	Baptism and Confirmation Lent
English	Fiction: <i>Artemis Fowl</i> by Eoin Colfer, <i>Wild</i> by Emily Hughes, Non-fiction: Newspaper reports Writing Purpose: To inform	Fiction: Fantasy– A Wizard of Earthsea Poetry – Imagery Writing Purpose: To Entertain Non-Fiction: Persuasive Letters, Fact-file, Non-chronological report, newspaper report Writing Purpose: To Inform
Mathematics	We will follow the New Mathematics Curriculum for Term 1 and will be teaching for greater depth.	
Science	Forces	Classification
Topic	History: The Shang Dynasty Geography: Physical and Human Geography - China DT: Clay sculpture Machine construction (linking to Forces) Computing: Using presentation software, using search technologies Internet safety Music: Brass ensemble	History: The Shang Dynasty Geography: Physical and Human Geography - China DT: Following Recipes Music: Listening, Performing, Composing Computing: Using presentation software, using search technologies Internet safety
Other	Spanish PSHCE: We will be following the SEAL programme throughout the year to develop the children's emotional literacy and problem solving skills. Democracy and British values. Computing: Internet safety and coding	

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The Shang Dynasty:

In our Shang Dynasty topic we will be studying the life of the Shang looking at early civilisation and where this era fits chronologically with other periods studied thus far and any impacts on today's world. We will be focusing on geographical skills during this topic taking inspiration from the areas occupied by the Shang Dynasty in China, looking at why these areas were chosen, how they were used and the physical attributes and features of the land. We will also look at how these areas have changed in today's modern world. We will be able to accurately label maps and identify physical features on a variety of map types. To further enrich this topic we are very fortunate in being able to welcome a class of Chinese students who will spend 2 days with us in our school during their visit to the UK. We hope to learn lots from our friends who will hopefully be able to tell us more about their culture and ancient customs as well as sharing some authentic cooking techniques and recipes with us.

Books:

It is extremely important that your child reads EVERY night. This may be only a few pages but could be a few chapters. You will notice that reading is listed as a homework activity every day and must be given a similar priority to any written homework given. The children must complete their reading logs, which will form part of their homework, on a daily basis. By reading daily, the children will be exposed to a range of authors and genres, and this will help them to perform better in their own creative writing tasks. This is a certain way of helping to improve writing ability in conjunction with other techniques.

Year 5: Children will also regularly be doing reading log work, Literacy based on a book and individual and guided reading in class.

Year 6: Children will also regularly be heard read in school during our Whole Class Guided Reading sessions and during a dedicated reading skills session.

Homework

Year 5: The children will receive their spellings list on a Monday. It is expected that they will practice these words at home in preparation for their test on Friday. Between Monday and Friday, children must complete 30 minutes of Spelling Shed online, Look Say Cover Write Check and a parent/carer test of spellings. On Friday, homework tasks are given out and must be returned to school by the following Wednesday. This includes an arithmetic test, a Spelling Shed worksheet and a grammar or literacy activity. Children should complete homework independently, spending a **maximum of 30 minutes** per evening, **plus** reading time. Over the weekend, students should read every day. If there is a concept they are struggling with and they cannot complete it without a lot of parent intervention, the children **should not continue** with the homework, simply **bring the homework with them uncompleted**. They may also be asked to finish incomplete tasks in their own time.

Year 6: This year homework is set in the same way as last year. The children will receive a skills based homework **daily**, which is revision and assessing their understanding and grasp of key objectives. As this is the case children should complete homework **independently** spending a **maximum of 30 minutes** per evening (please note it may not take the full 30 minutes to complete). If there is a concept they are struggling with and they cannot complete it without a lot of parent intervention, the children **should not continue** with the homework, simply **bring the homework with them uncompleted**. This is much more informative for me and we can address any misconceptions during our daily skills sessions.

General Reminders:

Punctuality: Please ensure your child is at school for 8.50. Being late for school harms your child's learning.

Uniform: All pupils should be wearing full school uniform at all times and also need a pair of trainers for outdoor use and shoes for indoor use. Please refer to the schools uniform policy for guidance. Please ensure all belongings are labelled. Summer uniform may be worn this term.

Equipment: In key stage 2 we expect all pupils to have the following equipment:

Pencils	Sharpener
Ruler	Highlighters (optional)
Eraser	Coloured pencils (optional)

Medicines: Only prescribed medicines should be labelled and handed in to the office with details of dosage requirements. Please refer to school policy on handling and administering medicines. (This excludes asthma inhalers, which must always be named and with the child at all times).

Water/Healthy Snack: Every pupil requires a **labelled** water bottle. Please ensure children only bring **fruit or vegetables** or a snack containing **100% fruit or vegetables** for break time snack.

Cake/Fairtrade Sale: Every Friday there is either a cake or Fairtrade sale at break. Cakes cost 20p and Fairtrade products are 60p. Check your copy of the diary dates for cake sale dates.

Mrs L Doda

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Miss E Carter

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