

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope you have had a lovely half term holiday!

Our topic this term is **Castles**. As part of this exciting topic, we will be looking at real castles in Britain and finding them on a map. We will learn about the different parts of castles and their uses. And we will be studying the life of famous Kings and Queens. '**Our Bodies**' is our Science topic which will include developing our science skills and learning about the parts of our body and their uses.

In **Literacy**, we will be starting the half term doing some in depth phonics work in preparation for our phonics test. We will then move on to story writing using castles and knights themed stories. The Reception children will be joining in with our work where it is appropriate. We will continue with our phonics work and be learning lots of new tricky words. Please ensure you read/practise sounds with your child as much as possible at home, some children are not practicing and it means they are struggling to keep up. Every little helps!

In **Maths** we will be working on arrays to support multiplication. Practising number bonds to 20 and finding the related subtraction facts then moving onto fractions and relating them to division. Then we will move onto time and mass towards the end of term, please keep working on Mathletics this is very important and helps your child with their mental recall activities, please let us know if you have trouble printing certificates and we can do this for you. We will share Mathletics certificates during assembly in church on a Friday!

We will be focusing on athletics in **PE** ready for sports week, it will be on a Monday afternoon. Please ensure that the children have both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school at all times as this may change without prior notice.

In **RE** we will be looking at '**Special places of worship**' we will look at our church and compare this to a Mosque.

To make all parents aware our reading pattern has changed slightly. All children are now guided reading once a week and reading individually 1-1 once a week. But if your child needs their book changing on a Friday that's fine we will be

encouraging them to get them out on a morning so we can get them changed over the day. We may start to send handwriting sheets or mental arithmetic sheets home to practise at home from time to time, this is to support what we are working on at school, please help your children with these.

During this term can we remind you again to not come into the classroom on a morning, your children need do their jobs independently now and we will be awarding merits to help promote independence. However if you wish to chat to us about anything at any time please feel free to come in and see us.

Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Bennison 😊