In Brief ...

Other Subject Areas

During the first half-term, in **History** we will be learning all about the history of our local area. We will be discovering the importance of Stokeon-Trent to the pottery and coal industries as well as researching famous individuals that contributed to the success of our city such as Josiah Wedgewood and James Brindley.

In **PE** lessons, the children will be taught by coaches from Port Vale FC. They will learn various techniques and skill in a series of gymnastics lessons. The children will also continue their swimming development through weekly lessons at New Horizons Swimming Baths.

In **Science**, firstly we will be learning all about evolution and inheritance. The children will discover what different characteristics animals inherit from their parents and how species adapt to their habitat over millions of years.

In **Art** lessons, the children will be studying mosaics. They will look at different styles of mosaics and identify what makes them effective before planning and creating their own piece of work.

In Music, children will benefit from the knowledge and expertise of Mrs Cliffe. Children will learn about musical traditions from around the world and rehearse for and perform in the Christmas productions.

Things to Note...

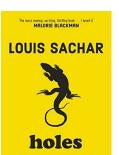
PE: During this half-term, PE will be taking place on a Friday afternoon. Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school on this day. Swimming will take place on a Wednesday morning—it's essential that children bring the correct kit for this.

Homework: Maths or English homework will be given out every Friday and needs to be handed in by the following Thursday. A table of optional, creative tasks will also be given to the children to complete whenever they feel like an extra challenge!

Reading: As usual, children should be reading every night and recording purposeful comments in their reading logs, checked on a Thursday. Children will once again be able to work towards Bronze, Silver and Gold reading awards!

Water Bottles: Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school each day. Please note that bottles in the classroom should only contain water and not juice.

Spring 2023







Mr. Hewitt

Mrs Farrell



Learning and Growing Together in Faith and Friendship



Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.



Article 29 – You have the right to be supported to reach your full potential and be the very best you can be.

	What are we learning?	Things I could do at home to support my child's learning.
Literacy	This half-term, we will be reading the iconic Holes by Louis Sachar—much of our writing in English lessons will be based on this text, including letter writing, setting description and character development. The children will continue to develop their knowledge, understanding and use of a wide variety of concepts in SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) lessons and will be able to apply the skills they are taught to their own independent writing. As well as our class text, we will continue to study a variety of genres of writing in Guided Reading lessons—developing our comprehension skills and working hard to evidence our ideas and answers using evidence from the text.	Please continue to monitor your child's reading, encouraging them to read a variety of appropriate fiction and non-fiction texts. If possible, encourage your child to read every day and record this in their reading log—which will be checked every Thursday. Ensure your child completes weekly spelling practice as well as English tasks set as homework. These tasks will support your child's learning in the classroom and help to prepare them for assessments taking place later in the year. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhrrd2p The BBC Bitesize website has lots of interactive games and activities to help your child, specifically with some of the grammar requirements of the curriculum. Check it out using the link above.
Numeracy	As the Spring Term starts, the children will explore the concepts of decimals and percentages. They will note the similarities and differences between the two and their relationship with fractions. The children will learnt to add, subtract and multiply decimals, as well as solving a range of problems involving percentages. Moving on from this, the children will explore a new exciting topic—algebra. They will learn how numbers can be represented by letters and will explore how algebra can be used to solve a number of real-life problems. Throughout the term, children will be practicing lots of fluency with short arithmetic-based sessions as well as continuing to develop their rapid recollection of multiplication facts.	Continue to practice times tables with your child. This can be done verbally, or alternatively using https://ttrockstars.com/. Your child has their username and password for Times Tables Rock Stars stuck in their Reading Log. Encourage your child to show you new methods of learning, particularly division where we will be learning to divide large numbers by numbers with two digits. Re-capping these methods at home will help to consolidate their knowledge and also identify if any more learning is required. Complete some arithmetic style questions with your child—these could be times tables based, column addition questions or simple fractions questions. Asking them to use their mental maths skills will really complement their learning in class.
æ	Although Christmas may feel done and dusted, the Church celebrates this season well into January. As such, the children will explore some of the various themes linked to the Christmas story, such as the visit of the wise men and their subsequent epiphany, and will consider why the birth of Christ is still extremely important to millions of people around the globe today. Following on from this, the children will explore two of the most important sacraments in the life of the church—Baptism and Confirmation.	Please help your child to create a private prayer space at home—this doesn't need to be a large area, just somewhere special for them to be able to send their prayers to God. Where possible, attend Mass with your child.