

St John's Mead CEVC Primary School
Autumn Term 2024






Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and that the children have all enjoyed their first few days in class Gemini. We have been very impressed with their enthusiasm and how well they have settled in.

Our topic this term is '*H₂O*' themed around water. In geography lessons, we will be learning about coasts, rivers and the water cycle. The science unit will be *Changes of State*, thinking about solids, liquids and gases and after October half term our unit will be *Forces and Magnets*. We encourage children to research at home by reading non-fiction texts, searching on the internet, watching relevant film clips etc. Below are some suggested activities that children can do at home to support their learning. Children can bring their homework in to school or post on Class Dojo by the due dates to be shared and celebrated.

Autumn Term 1

<p>Complete a table listing the solids, liquids and gases around your home.</p>  <p>Due: 20/09/24</p>	<p>Create a leaflet or presentation to promote saving water.</p>  <p>Due: 04/10/24</p>	<p>Produce a poster about a river. Include interesting facts about any river in the world.</p>  <p>Due: 18/10/24</p>
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Autumn Term 2

<p>Go for a riverside walk. Maybe make a note of the name of the river and find it on a map.</p>  <p>Due: 08/11/24</p>	<p>Make a list of all the magnetic items in your home.</p>  <p>Due: 22/11/24</p>	<p>Create a model or draw a picture of an animal that lives in or by a river.</p>  <p>Due: 06/12/24</p>
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In English, we have begun the term by studying the story, '*The Secret of Black Rock*' by Joe Todd-Stanton. This term we are focusing on basic sentence structure and punctuation. Please see the separate spelling letter for their weekly spellings. These will also be added to the school website and Class Dojo. We have found regular practise of 2 or 3 times a week will give your child the best chance to remember these spellings in the future. Children will be tested on their spellings every Friday. The expectation is that children are heard reading at home at least 4 times per week and that this is recorded in their reading records. Children are awarded a certificate when they achieve milestones of 33, 66, 99... reads. We ask that children bring their reading record and book in to school every Thursday to reward their efforts and swap their book. Library book change will also be on that day so please remind your child to bring all of these books in on Thursday.

We have started Maths with studying the place value of numbers. This will be followed with a calculation unit of addition and subtraction, including formal written methods. Number clubs will also be tested every Thursday.

The PSHE units, your child will be exploring are ‘*Being Me*’ and ‘*Celebrating Differences*’. In RE, we will be learning about what it is like to be a Christian today in Britain and how key festivals are celebrated.

We will be studying the artist Claude Monet in art, looking in particular at his paintings of water lilies. In Design and Technology, we will be designing and making money containers. We will be listening to different styles of music in our music lessons, focusing in more depth on ‘Night on a Bare Mountain’ by Mussorgsky. We will be learning how to greet people in French, follow and give instructions, recall numbers and later this term find out about Christmas traditions in France.

PE this year, is on Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure that your child wears their PE kit (including trainers) to school and that earrings are removed and long hair is tied back on these days. PE kit is a white or blue plain t-shirt with black or navy shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms. This year, swimming lessons will be mainly Wednesday afternoons. Please note the dates for the lessons below as they are spread out over the Autumn and Spring term. More information about these sessions will be on a separate note.

Our session number	Date	Day of week	Gemini	Genesis	Liberty
1	11.09.24	Wed	1:30pm	2pm	2:30pm
2	18.09.24	Wed	1:30pm	2pm	2:30pm
3	04.12.24	Wed	1:30pm	2pm	2:30pm
4	11.12.24	Wed	1:30pm	2pm	2:30pm
5	18.12.24	Wed	1pm	1:30pm	2pm
6	02.04.25	Wed	1:30pm	2pm	2:30pm
7	24.04.25	Tue		1.30pm	2pm

Key reminders:

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
PE kit	PE kit Library book Reading book and reading record Number Clubs tested	Spellings tested

If you have any queries about any matter concerning your child, please do not hesitate to speak to me or message me on Class Dojo. I will endeavour to reply within 48 working hours.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Barker