



Spring Term in St David's Class



Happy New Year!

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and new Year break - your children have certainly returned full of enthusiasm for learning. We extend a warm welcome to Charlie and his family as he joins us this term. Many of you will know his family as his sister, Christina, who is in Year 1. We also welcome Miss West who has taken over from Mrs Smith as our Teaching assistant. We are sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Smith well in her retirement.

As you know most of our learning takes place around the children's interests and needs, but we will start the year looking at familiar tales. Then we will be moving onto the popular topic of 'People Who Help Us' after half term. If you or anyone you know is someone who could talk to the children about their 'helpful' job please get in touch. Our weekly learning letters will continue this term and we are always on hand at the gate to answer any quick queries.

Mrs Hauxwell & Miss Longmire

Home Time Routines

If someone other than you is picking your child up you must inform a member of staff so that it can be written in our home time book. Teachers will not let children go unless it is in the book or they have been told.

Voluntary Contribution

To provide your children with enhancing activities such as baking and messy play we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £5 per half term. Please can this be given to the office in a named envelope, by the end of the first week each half term.

Clothing

Don't forget a warm waterproof coat – the children are out in all weathers. And we can't stress enough the need to label **EVERYTHING!**

PE

Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday. Some times we will use the hall for other activities, but please make sure your child's kit is in school clearly labelled on these days in particular.

Junk Modelling

Yes please!

Library

Don't forget our day to visit the school library is Tuesdays. Please make sure your child brings their book back then.

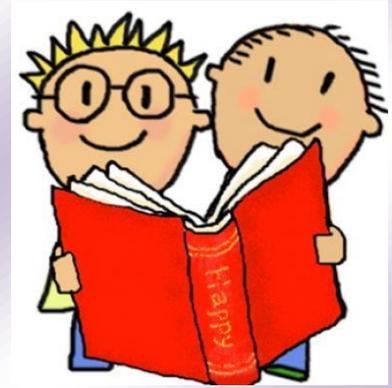
Proud Clouds

Don't forget to keep us informed of anything your child has done to make you proud.

Helping your Child at Home

Reading

The children have come on in leaps and bounds with their reading since the beginning of the year. Please remember 'little and often' is our mantra. We need to keep them engaged and learning all the time. Don't forget they can read anywhere – signs on the road, labels at the supermarket. We have started sending home 'tricky' words this term. These are words that cannot be sounded out, but just have to be recognised on sight. Your child will start with 5, if they know them the next week they will get another 5 and so on. We take it very much at their own pace – there is no pressure for them to know them all instantly. Just keep practising them at home with flash cards and looking at their shapes.



Maths

We have done a lot of work on recognising numbers and counting accurately. The next steps in the children's learning is to start adding and taking away. We do this very practically with physical objects and Numicon. Counting on is another tricky task to master so keep saying counting rhymes with your children and asking them what the next number is in a sequence. What is one more / one less?

Writing

As the children grow in confidence with their phonics they begin to explore mark making and writing the sounds down. We encourage them through lots of opportunities in the classroom, be it in role plays or doing surveys. You can support your child at home by providing them with further opportunities to write, such as a diary or their own note books to play schools with. The boys might like to design their own car and label it. You can use all sorts of resources to help them such as magazines and story books.