



Autumn Term Newsletter



RE

As a Catholic school, we teach the R.E. curriculum using 'Come and See' from the Hexham and Newcastle Diocese. This half term, we will be studying 'Beginnings'. We also learn about other faiths to teach understanding & tolerance of our differences. This term we are learning about Judaism.

The Maths Mastery Approach is continuing to be embedded at St. John's. Through this, we explore every concept in 3 ways – fluency, reasoning and problem solving – using White Rose to deepen understanding and encourage children to make links in their knowledge.

This term, we will be revisiting and consolidating the Year 1 curriculum and progressing into Year 2. During Autumn 1, we will be looking at numbers up to 100: counting objects to 100; representing numbers to 100; drawing and writing numbers to 100 using dienes; partitioning numbers up to 100 and comparing numbers

All children will be given login information for an app called 'Numbots'. They should access Numbots at home at least twice a week to consolidate learning of maths and to support their maths skills.

More information on this, including their login information, will be shared in the coming weeks.

Hummingbird

Welcome back to school! After an excellent start to Hummingbird Class, the children are all settling in nicely and working hard. It is all new and different, but I'm pleased to say that all children are adapting to their new environment and routines successfully. At any point throughout the year, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me through the school office or catch me at the end of the day as I am always happy to help in any way I can.

Science

This term in science we are looking at Living Things. In this topic, children will learn about food chains and how animals get their energy. They will explore microhabitats such as logs, soil, and leaf piles, and discover which minibeasts live there. Children will also find out how plants are suited to where they grow, and how their parts help them survive in different environments.

History

We have been learning about George Stephenson and the railways. Children will learn about George Stephenson as a significant person from the past. They will explore how his inventions helped to create the first railways, and how trains have changed over time. Using pictures and objects, they will find out what life was like long ago and why Stephenson's work was important both locally and across the country.

PSHE & Wellbeing

We will be using TenTen Resources to support our PSHE curriculum. This term, our focus will be
Created and loved by God (children valuing themselves)
Created to love others (strategies for developing healthy

PE

Our PE lessons take place on a Thursday. Please ensure that your child comes to school in an outdoor PE kit. This should consist of: shorts/jogging bottoms (which should be plain/dark in colour) and a white t shirt.
Please ensure that your child is also wearing suitable footwear for PE.

English

This half-term, we will explore a range of texts to support our reading and writing in English.

Our main text will be *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*, which will help us develop writing to entertain. Children will write character descriptions, retell parts of the story, and create their own narratives inspired by the book. We will also write safety instructions for Bonfire Night and enjoy describing fireworks through our senses.

Reading

Your child has a daily phonic and reading lesson which lasts 30 minutes where we follow Sounds Write. We regularly assess your child's phonics and they access books in school which are the correct phonic level.