



## St Bartholomew's CE Primary School Palm Class Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

*"Learn from yesterday, live for today and hope for tomorrow."* Albert Einstein

Welcome to the second term of this school year in Palm Class. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support during the first term and I look forward to working closely with you all going forward. The children had a very successful term, have settled so well into school life and I am incredibly proud of them. We had such a busy but truly wonderful term and it was such a joy for the Palm Class Team to support them on their learning journey once again.

It was an absolute delight to welcome the children back to school in September. They have all transitioned so well into their new class, made some wonderful new friends and we have loved learning all about what the land is used for in our local area. The children have drawn maps, completed research about the local area and how it has changed over time. It has given them an opportunity to really see where and how they belong in West Pinchbeck. The culmination of our topic was a Pumpkin Feast where the children made and then tasted different dishes made with locally sourced pumpkins.



**Topic** - This term, our Topic will explore the question 'Do all rivers lead to the sea'. The children will learn about the River Nile, the Water Cycle and local rivers across the curriculum too. Please see the Curriculum Table attached for further information. If you have any resources at home, relevant to our topic that your child would like to share - please send them in to enhance the learning for this topic. All items will be returned.

**Reading** - In Palm Class we aim to encourage enjoyment of reading and I would be grateful if you could make sure that your child is reading every day with somebody to ensure your child's reading improves. The children must remember to bring their reading books to school with them each day and we will check to see if they need changing, please ensure that this is clearly noted in their reading record. We will aim to change their reading books as regularly and safely as possible. Please make the time to read with your child, encourage them to discuss the text and make a

record of any reading carried out, in your child's reading record. A short comment on how your child found the book would be useful for staff members. Get reading Palm Class!

**Times-tables** - It is essential that the children work on these out of school to ensure they are making the necessary progress and I would be grateful for your support in this. It is possible to purchase CDs with times table songs, Apps on the Ipad, card games, workbooks practice makes perfect! Each child in Palm Class has been allocated a TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars) username and password, which will give children the opportunity to practice their tables.

**PE** - Lessons will take place on Monday and Thursday afternoons this term and lessons will be outside. A polite reminder that children are required to bring their PE kit into school. A full kit should contain black trousers or shorts, a white t-shirt, trainers and a black jacket of some sort or school fleece to ensure your child stays warm. In addition, all jewellery should be **removed prior to school** PE/Games lessons; specifically earrings must be removed (not covered with tape) to avoid risk of accident and injury.

**Colouring Books** - I would be grateful if you could you send in a named colouring book to stay in your child's tray so that they can use this during wet playtimes when it is not possible to go outside to play.

**Homework** - In Palm Class homework will be set and sent home on a Friday and will be handed in the following Wednesday. This gives the children time to speak to a member of the Palm Class Team **by Monday latest**, if they require any additional help. The homework will include a page of guidance, the weekly spelling list, a piece of Maths and piece of English, both relating to the weeks learning. Please be aware that homework may be set on Purple Mash (notice given in the guidance) to encourage the use of this fabulous resource. I would be grateful if you could encourage your child to ensure that their homework is completed to the best of their ability and handed in on time in order for them to secure what they have learnt over the course of that week.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to catch me at the gate or on the playground either before or after school, please be aware that we are required to keep to strict timings before the next group of children are due to arrive. Alternatively, contact the School Office to arrange a telephone call with me at a suitable time.

Finally, **please** join us on Twitter and follow **@ClassPalm** or look regularly at the Palm Class Page on the School Website. I will endeavour to keep these as up to date as possible so that you can all see what the children have been up to in school. Many thanks in advance for all you support.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Cox and the Palm Class Team

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Leaveslake Drove, West Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire, PE11 3QJ, Tel: 01775 640357  
Email: [enquiries@stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk) Website:



[www.stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk)

## Curriculum

Please refer to the grid below to see what the children in Palm Class (Y2/3) will be learning over the course of this term.

<b>English</b>	<b>Phonics:</b> We will follow the Read. Write Inc programme to teach your child the sounds they need to know.
	<b>Genres:</b> Narrative, Character and Setting Descriptions, Letter Writing, Information Texts
	<b>Texts:</b> The children will read different types of texts this term, which will include fiction and non-fiction books linked to our topic. If your child has any story books that they would like to share with their friends, then please name them and send them in their book bags. All books will be returned.
	<b>Spellings and Grammar:</b> Common Exception Words for Year 2 and 3; Basic sentence structure; Sentence Types; Present Tense; Present Progressive; Punctuation, Rhyming Words, Adjectives or expanded noun phrases; Contractions; Compound sentences - coordinating conjunctions; Complex sentences - subordinating conjunctions; Express time, place and cause using: adverbs (then, next, soon, therefore, finally) and adverbials including prepositional phrases (e.g. before dark, during break, in the cave, because of Fred).
<b>Maths</b>	This term will focus predominantly on addition and subtraction. We will continue to use an investigative approach to maths, where the children will continually be expected to apply their knowledge to 'real' problems developing their fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills. The children will work through a three-step process - concrete, pictorial and abstract - this will enable them to grasp concepts securely and master them
	<b>KIRFs (Key Instant Recall Facts):</b> Y2 - To know multiplication and division facts for x2. Y3 - To know the multiplication and division facts for the 3 times table.
<b>Topic / Science</b>	Our Topic will explore the question 'Do all rivers lead to the sea'. The children will learn about the River Nile, the Water Cycle and local rivers across the curriculum too. They will also identify physical characteristics and key topographical features including rivers and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time. We will continue to learn about Animals including Humans in Palm Class where the children will identify that animals, including humans, need the right types of nutrition, and that they cannot make their own food; they get nutrition from what they eat. This will cover elements of working scientifically by using their observations to compare and contrast animals at first hand or through videos and photographs, describing how they identify and group them; grouping animals according to what they eat. In addition, they will develop their knowledge and understanding of specific scientific vocabulary.
<b>ICT</b>	The children will learn about 'Effective Searching and Typing', using Purple Mash with the hope to utilising this skill across the curriculum and to enhance their learning.
<b>RE</b>	In RE the children develop their understanding of Christianity by exploring the concept of Creation and who Christians believe made the world.
<b>PSHE</b>	In class we will take part in Anti-Bullying Week and will be exploring the topic 'My Emotions' where they will discover different ways in which they can communicate their emotions.