

Dear Parent(s)/carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the Spring term, I hope you had a lovely Christmas and New Year. The children are now settled back into work and have been working extremely hard throughout the week. Please take a look at our class blog to see some pictures from the kick start to our topic at We the Curious on Tuesday. Our topic for the next few weeks will be 'Earth and Space!', within this we will be scientists and explore the galaxy.

P.E. will continue to happen every Friday alongside outdoor learning. Please ensure your child has a jumper and coat in school (alongside hats, gloves and waterproofs if you have them), as we spend long periods of time outside and the weather is getting colder.

Homework will continue to be set on Fridays and will be due in on Wednesdays. Spellings will also be set every Friday and the children will be tested the following week. What's more we are encouraging the children to earn their reading awards, so we ask if you can listen to your child read at least five times a week and record it in their reading diaries. Please also ensure reading books and diaries are in school every day.

As you are aware, we pride ourselves with our smart presentation at St Joseph's, so please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform. If you are unsure on suitability, please check the school website.

DEAR time has become an everyday aspect of school life this year and this involves the class reading and exploring great quality books together. Our class book this term is 'Wolf Brother' written by Michelle Paver - please feel free to purchase the book or borrow it from your local library to allow your child to follow along with the text in class.

Finally, I will be available in the school playground at the end of the day, or if you would like to discuss any concerns, then please make an appointment through the admin team or the senior leadership team (seniorleadership@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk). Please see the attached topic web for information on what we will be learning in our forthcoming term.

Kind regards,
Miss Crisp

Earth and Space

Saint Teresa's Class Topic Web – Spring Term 1

Numeracy

Multiplication and Division: Written Methods

Geometry: Position and Direction

Literacy

Conquering the Monster - Using our new knowledge of space to write a story which entails defeating the monster.

Non-Chronological Reports – Incorporating factual information gathered across our themed work to create a truthful piece of writing.

RE

Christmas: This unit explores the Christmas story in greater detail and looks at some of the difficulties encountered by the Holy Family as a result of the Birth of Jesus. In particular, the effects of being homeless and a refugee are covered. Connections are made between the plight of Jesus and the homeless and refugees today. The role of King Herod highlights the problems faced by the refugees and homeless today.

Revelation: Across this unit we will be looking into the Story of the Baptism of Jesus, making a link with the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God and understanding some of the symbolism used within the story.

French

Across our French sessions, we are going to be revising days of the week and fruits, learning months of the year and how to say differing sports/hobbies.

Theme Related – Space

Our exciting curriculum journey will now take all of us within Saint Teresa's class to outer space, where we will be delving into lots of learning surrounding Earth and Space! We are going to be **scientists** as we explore our galaxy and broaden our space knowledge.

When acting as **scientists**, we will be discovering lots of new information about a variety of topics, including...

- The movement of the Earth and other planets, relative to the sun
- Describing the movement of the Moon relative to Earth
- Describing the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies
- Using the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.
- Explaining that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object.

