



SHENFIELD ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

HALL LANE SHENFIELD BRENTWOOD CM15 9AL
(A member of the Mid Essex Anglican Academy Trust)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you have had a lovely peaceful Christmas break. We have a busy term ahead of us with two exciting topics. The first of which is 'Amazing Animals', through which the children will be finding out about different animals and the various habitats that they live in. We will begin with our stunning starter whereby the children will find their classroom has turned into a jungle. For our marvellous middle we will be exploring the icy Arctic and the properties of ice. Our topic will finish with a focus on dinosaurs and we will be having a dinosaur day.

After half term we will be moving onto the topic of 'Come Outside'. During this topic the children will be learning about how things grow and what we might find in our gardens e.g. bugs. This topic will begin with us cutting open a variety of fruit and vegetables and looking at their seeds. For the middle of this topic we will be going to Barleylands farm for a 'Field to Fork' day. Through this the children will discover the origins of food and what happens during the farming year. They will also make a healthy pizza from scratch and visit a poly-tunnel to see food growing. The topic will finish with a hunt for minibeasts in our nearby surroundings.

PE

Our PE days will be changing to Tuesday for both classes. Please remember that the children come to school dressed in their PE kits but wearing their school shoes. The children's trainers should now be in school. These are kept in school for our daily mile runs and PE lessons. Please ensure that your child's PE is labelled. We will also be going outside for our cross country event on the 2nd March.

Helping at Home

To enable you to support your child's learning we will publish a weekly 'Homelink' letter on Google Classroom. This will inform you about what we will be doing in the following week. Homework will continue in the same format as last term:

- Weekly handwriting practise (please note that this will continue to be submitted through a photo via Google Classroom).
- Weekly sound and sight word practise.
- Daily reading (building up to a maximum of 15 minutes a day), *Please can we remind you that the children's reading books should be in their book bags every day and the yellow reading record book must be signed as this indicates to us that you have read at home.*
- Completing the next 'Parental Voice' for your parental contribution about your child's learning.
- An optional practical maths activity for you to reinforce the maths focus for the week.

We look forward to teaching your children and working with you this year.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Johnson Miss Butler



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