



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,

Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for the new term ahead. We would like to say a huge 'Thank you' for all your kind and generous gifts. They were very much appreciated.

In the term ahead our topic is 'Go with the flow'. We are really excited about this topic as it links primarily with Science and Geography. We will be focusing on the water cycle including our stunning starter where the children will make rain clouds in a jar! We will then be looking at the design and construction of bridges, resulting in the children creating their own bridge structure.

In Literacy, we are mainly focusing on fiction, stories in imaginary worlds and non-chronological reports. William Morris will be the featured artist for our Art studies this term, in which we will be exploring combining and organising shapes, colours and patterns.

This term will see a focus on other faiths. Primarily Sikhism in the first half and the Judaism after half term. We will be learning out about the Ten Gurus, Gurdwaras, the forming of the Kalsa and the main beliefs of Sikhism as well as finding out about the festival of Baisakhi. Continuing with our theme of People of God, we will be focusing on Moses and the Exodus. This links nicely with our focus on Judaism. Towards the end of this term, we will be learning about the Jewish festival of Passover, which commemorates the exodus journey.

We also have Class led worship on the following dates – Seahorse Class – Friday 3rd February 2023.

This Term, Year 4 will be leading the KS2 Eucharist on Thursday 4th May 2023. We hope you will be able to join us for this service in the hall.

Homework: Thank you for all your hard work and support with the homework 'theme' based approach. It has been an absolute pleasure to see so many different responses. All homework can be found each week on Google Classrooms. Please mark the homework with your child, before it is submitted. Spelling and times table tests are carried out each week. Please remember to practice all spelling lists as they are given each week. The test will involve a random selection of all the words in each set. **Please ensure the children continue to read a variety of genres at home, spending a minimum of 15 mins per day reading.** The children should also read to an adult and discuss the book with them to aid their comprehension skills. Ensure that reading diaries are signed regularly after children have read to an adult and sent in every day, as we will be monitoring children's home reading. **Reading books will be changed after children have completed the 2 stars and a wish on the book they have been reading.**

Times Tables: We will be encouraging the children to learn all of the times tables up to 12x12. Please continue to practice all times tables and include the division facts e.g. $3 \times 4 = 12$, $12 \div 4 = 3$. Keep up the hard work!

PE: Indoor PE will take place on Tuesday afternoon and outdoor PE will continue to take place on a Thursday afternoon (weather permitting). Children should come to school dressed in their PE kits. A **full tracksuit** would be most beneficial, especial during cold weather. Please ensure your child brings in suitable outdoor trainers for muddy weather. The children will be required to have a pair of trainers in every day, as we will continue to take part in the daily mile. It is also a good idea to provide a carrier bag to put their dirty trainers in rather than straight into their PE bag. All items must be **clearly named and in an obviously visible place** for easy identification of belongings.

Thank you in advance for your continued support,

Miss Michael, Mrs Good & Mrs Stark



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