



# LEARNING, LOVING AND LIVING TOGETHER WITH CHRIST

## Curriculum Newsletter

**Year 2 Acer & Silver Birch Autumn 2 2017**

### English

In English our story is 'The Nativity'. The children will be using the story as a stimulus for their own writing activities. They will write about their favourite part of the story, giving reasons for their choice. They will write questions that they would like to ask Joseph and use these for a hot-seating activity. They will write a character description for Joseph and a diary entry from the perspective of Mary. The children will also imagine that they are one of the Three Kings returning from Bethlehem, and write a recount of their journey. You can help your child by discussing what happens in the story and talk with them about characters in this story and the other books that they are reading. Talk about the characters feelings and what they are like too and discuss any vocabulary they may not know the meaning of. The children will continue to practise phonics and spellings daily and we will also be practising handwriting, using a cursive script.



### Maths

During this half term Year 2 will be recalling and using their knowledge of addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and using related facts up to 100. They will be adding and subtracting numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit number and tens; two two-digit numbers and adding three one-digit numbers. This will also include problem solving.

They will also learn that the addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.

During this term, children will also begin to recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.



### Religious Education

Our RE units for this half term are:

**Sharing in the life of Jesus:** children will learn about the life of Mary and Jesus and the call of the disciples. They will also learn about some saints who have responded to the call of Jesus. Children will also learn that the Rosary is a special form of Christian prayer.

**Advent:** children will know that Advent is a season of preparation for Christmas; describe the advent wreath and explain why it is a symbol of preparation for Christmas. They will also know the story of John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus and describe some ways in which the parish prepares for Christmas.

**Christmas:** children will know and be able to sequence the story of Christmas from the annunciation to the flight into Egypt. They will be able to trace the journey of Mary and Joseph on a map. Children will also understand some of the difficulties faced by Mary and Joseph and why their journeys to Bethlehem and Egypt were necessary.

A prayer bag will be sent home on a weekly basis to a different family each week.



# This term's topic is 'Christmas is Coming'

Our topic will be taught through cross-curricular sessions across the subjects.

## Science

Children will find out how the shape of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Throughout the year the children will also be looking at seasonal changes and observing daily weather patterns across each of the four seasons.



## DT

The children will be making calendars, which will include a moving picture. During these sessions children will be refining their cutting and assembling skills.

They will also be learning about Christmas food from around the world with the opportunity to taste and evaluate.

## Homework to be in by: Friday 8th December

Children who practise skills at home achieve better results, are happier and more confident at school. Homework is given to reinforce skills and enable you to learn a little about what your child can do and needs to learn.

We would like you to base your homework project this half term around our topic of 'Christmas is Coming'. This could be in the form of a poster, information leaflet, fact file or even a 3D model. The possibilities are endless.

## Reading

Reading books will continue to be sent out on a Monday so please ensure that the books come in promptly on Monday morning.

Children should also be accessing the Bug Club Reading Scheme on the computer as new books will be allocated every Friday for your child to read. Bug Club is vital to make sure your child reaches national expectation in SATs.

Spellings will be sent home on a Friday to be practised ready for the spelling test the following Thursday.

## Maths

Maths homework will be set online via My Maths every Friday, ready for completion for the following Friday. Please practise counting in twos, fives and tens as this will help your children begin to learn these tables.

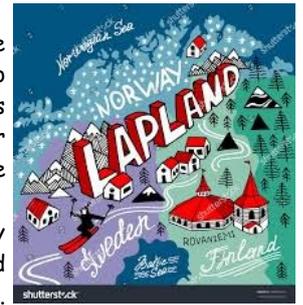
Children have been given their username and password so that they are able to access My Maths at home.

## Geography

Throughout the year the children are going to develop their locational knowledge, as each week they will hear either a news item from the UK or from around the world.

The children will also study photographs of Lapland and locate on a map where it is.

They will identify both human and physical features of Lapland and compare these to features of their own locality.



## Music

The children will be learning and practising songs from the Christmas play, in preparation for this year's performance of Midwife Crisis. During these practises children will learn to use their voices expressively and creatively.

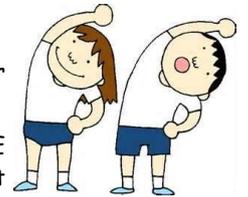
## Computing

As part of our computing sessions children will be using technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve digital content. They will use Clicker Paint to create firework pictures and practise saving and retrieving their work.

## PE

PE is on a Thursday and a Friday for Acer Class and Silver Birch Class.

The children will take part in two PE sessions a week; one will be taught by a sports coach and the other by the class teacher.



The children will be focusing on the units: Brilliant Ball Skills and Mighty Movers (running skills). These sessions will allow children to use hand-eye coordination to control a ball, to catch a variety of objects, to vary types of throw, to kick and move with a ball and to develop catching and dribbling skills.

They will also learn how to run efficiently using the arms, to demonstrate running with balance and coordination and to use circuits to improve fitness.

Children MUST have their kits in school on Monday please ready for the week ahead. All kit must be clearly named. If your child is wearing tights on a PE day please ensure socks are also provided to wear with PE pumps.