

## *St John's Mead CEVC Primary School*



*Spring term 2016*

*Dear Parents / Carers,*

*The children have settled back into school after the Christmas break and are working hard. Thank you very much for your thoughtful cards and presents, they were much appreciated.*

*We are very excited about our topic for this term, 'Home and Away'. Thank you to those of you who helped your children to draw or photograph their home and discuss the materials that it is made out of. It would be good for your child to do this in the next few weeks if they did not get chance to over the Christmas holidays.*

*We will be looking at other buildings in Chipping Sodbury and the local area, including places of worship in our RE lessons and the Clifton Suspension Bridge as we study Brunel in History and design and make our own bridges in Design and Technology.*

*After having focused on the local area we will move on to looking at homes in other parts of the world. We are planning to find out about a different country each week and are hoping that the children will enjoy finding out about the countries both in school and at home. If you have visited or have friends/relatives abroad and are able to share knowledge about a particular country please let us know.*

*Our English lessons will be based around the book 'Meerkat Mail' which is about a meerkat from the Kalahari Desert who travels around trying to find his perfect home. The children will be writing their own stories about Sunny the Meerkat and later writing a report about the Kalahari Desert.*

*Our class library day is Friday. Please ensure your child returns their library book on this day (unless they have not finished reading it).*

*In Maths we are working to improve our understanding of the values of different numbers, as well as the names and properties of 3D shapes. In calculation we will be continuing with addition and subtraction. You can support your child by counting with them in 2s, 5s and 10s; by helping them to learn the number facts to 10 and 20, asking them what the time is, in particular when it is o'clock or half past; and through your continued support with their personal number club target.*

*Our PSHE focus this term will involve the children thinking about goals they want to work towards. We are also looking forward to a visit from the 'Life Bus', with the ever popular Harold (the giraffe), when the children have a special opportunity to learn about keeping healthy and safe, including the use of medicine.*

*PE is on a Monday and Thursday, although it is best to have the kit in school all week in case of timetable changes, or additional opportunities. Please ensure that all of your child's PE kit is clearly labelled with their name. If your child wears earrings please make sure they are removed for PE days. Long hair must also be tied back on these days.*

*If you would like to come in to school to help at any time, please let us know, it is always greatly appreciated. We would particularly appreciate it if any parents or grandparents are free on a Thursday or Friday for an hour each week to come in to listen to some children read.*

*If you have any queries about any matter concerning your child, please do not hesitate to speak to us.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Mrs Carver and Mrs Collins*