



St John's Mead CEVC Primary School
Spring Term 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break and thank you for your generous Christmas gifts, they were very much appreciated.

As you are probably aware our topic this term is 'Rotten Romans'. We will be covering the following themes:

- Who were the Romans and the Celts?
- Why did the Romans come to Britain?
- What did the Romans do for us?
- What was life like in Roman Britain?
- Who were gladiators?
- Designing and making a chariot.
- Weaving and mosaics.

Please feel free to share this topic with your child at home. We launched the topic with our Roman Workshop 'WOW' day on Monday. The children are welcome to bring in any additional information/artefacts/pictures to share with their class. There will be a chance during this topic for you to join us for a Roman presentation, details regarding this will follow.

In English we will be studying myths and legends and creating poems using imagery. Later this term we will be writing an adventure story inspired by 'Captive Celts' by Terry Deary, studying persuasive texts and writing instructions, linked to our design and technology unit on building a model chariot. This term we are focusing on sentence structure and grammar. In RE we will be learning about Creation stories and caring for our world in the Hindu, Islamic and Jewish faiths. Our PSHE units will be 'Going for Goals' and 'It's good to be me'.

As already mentioned in a previous note, we are having a big push on multiplication tables in Maths this term. This will be evident in their number clubs, please continue to support your child with learning their times tables at home. Children will be tested every Monday. We find that the children really benefit from any practical maths experiences at home, such as adding up coins to pay for items in a shop or weighing out ingredients when cooking. Please check how secure your child is at telling the time. They need to be able to tell the time from an analogue clock, to the nearest minute including using Roman numerals and 24 hour clocks. Any extra practice at home will really benefit them.

PE will be on a Monday and Thursday, although during the weeks we have swimming sessions it will just be Thursdays. Swimming was due to start back on Tuesday 10th January however this was cancelled on the day by the Leisure Centre due to heating problems; the last scheduled swimming session is on Tuesday 7th March and there will be an additional 'make-up' session at some point (to be advised). Please ensure that your child has a PE kit, including daps or trainers (that fit) on PE days and that earrings are removed and hair is tied up. Our library day is Monday. Please remind your child to bring in their library book on that day so that it can be changed.

This term's homework will include: reading, practising spelling patterns (see separate letter in their homework book), number clubs and topic homework. Well done to all the children who have completed every piece of homework so far. We have been very impressed with the time and effort that has gone in to their homework, thank you for all your support in this.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Wilson and Mrs N Glover