



St Mark's CE Primary School

'Loving to Learn, Learning to Love'

Year 5 Newsletter

Spring 2

This half term the children will be looking at the question **"Why were the Norman castles certainly not bouncy?"** as they explore the history of Britain after the Battle of Hastings in 1066. During this topic, the children will be exploring Norman castles - their features and defensive properties. This will involve an in-depth study of castle locations and life in the time of the Normans.

English

In English this half term, the children will be reading the story: 'Invasion' written by June Crebbin, which links with the topic of the Normans. Whilst writing a diary entry, the children will continue to develop their understanding of the character. They will monitor how the emotions of the character change throughout the story to evaluate how both action and speech can affect the character.

We will also be continuing Read, Write Inc. Spelling throughout this half term to help improve our spelling.

Reading

We continue to recognise that, at times, this is not an easy task at home, but must again stress the great impact this has on all areas of learning. Thank you for your commitment with this. To celebrate this, all children who are able to read at least 5 times a week at home will be entered into the Star Readers prize draw every week for their chance to win a book to take home.

In school, all children will continue to have daily guided reading sessions, which focus on developing core comprehension skills. They will also read individually with the class teacher or support staff.

Mathematics

Our focus in mathematics this half term moves onto fractions where the children will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge of calculation to the topic of fractions. As well as ordering and comparing fractions, the children will be learning how to calculate with fractions.

As always, the children should be trying to access Times Table Rockstars at home to improve their knowledge of multiplication and division facts.

Homework

Homework is given out on a Friday and expected in school by the following Wednesday. Children have several choices to choose from with all needing to be completed by the end of the half term.

Science

For our Science topic this half term we will be asking the question, **"Can You Feel the Force?"**

This topic will explore the forces of friction, air resistance and water resistance and provide the children with plenty of investigation opportunities.

P.E.

For both 5K and 5J this half term, P.E. is on **Wednesday – this is Swimming**. As with last half term, can we please ask that the children come with the correct kit on a Wednesday and that a note is provided from a parent if a child cannot participate for any reason. Thank you!

