



Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Hall Lane, Cronton, Cheshire WA8 5DW

Tel: 0151 424 3926 Fax: 0151 420 3177

Headteacher: Mrs J Cook-Hannah

We pray together. We play together. We learn together.

Year One Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

The end of another half term at Holy Family! We hope you have a lovely break and that your children enjoy the rest. We know lots of illnesses have been going around at the moment so we hope your half term is happy and healthy!

Literacy

This week we have been thinking about Chinese New Year! When we were in Reception we learnt about the story of Mulan so this year we learnt the story of how Chinese New Year was created and celebrated. We learnt about the animals in the story getting across the river in a particular order. There were 13 animals, each a sign of the zodiac apart from the cat who was disqualified from the race! So that makes 12 animals all together. We talked about which year we were born in and how that shows which animal we are supposedly similar to. In Year One, the children were either a rat or an ox.

After we had learnt about this story, we learnt about a Chinese traditional tale called The Magic Paintbrush. The story is about a girl called Shen whose paintings come alive when she uses a special magic paintbrush. She only uses the paintbrush to help people and do good things but a rich man in the village tries to get her to use the paintbrush to make the rich people richer. We were really good at talking about the moral issues in the story and discussed wealth and why this isn't always a good thing as it had made the rich man cross and bitter.

In our Big Draw we drew something that we could make come alive that would help others and came up with some fantastic ideas.

Maths

This week in our Maths lessons we have been practicing our doubles facts up to 10. We have met Captain Hook who is going to be joining us at the beginning of every maths lesson with a problem to solve. He thinks he is brilliant at Maths but unfortunately, he is not always right and it's up to us to prove him right or wrong. This week he said that if you double any one digit number the answer will always be odd. We proved him wrong! Then he said that he thought this doubles fact $5 + 5 = 10$ could help him with this addition problem $6 + 5 =$

11. We agreed with him that knowing a doubles fact could help us solve an addition calculation.

Letters and Sounds

We are now on Phase 5. When a new sound is introduced it is important that children practice these at home. To help you with this I will be sending home some sentences every week. As part of the homework requirements please practice these sentences over the weekend. Many thanks.

This week instead of sentences we have included alien words using the split digraph sounds. Alien words are often called pseudo or nonsense words. These are words that encourage children to use decoding (sounding out) to read the word to ensure that they can visualise the digraphs and trigraphs even in words that are not real. We always laugh when we read alien words because they often sound silly!

RARA Bags

Please note: we will be changing the day that we do RARAs - from after half term we will be changing books on a Monday morning at 8.45.

Snack Money

Please can we ask that all outstanding snack money for this half term is sent in asap. Thank you.

Homework/Suggested activities

We will now be suggesting activities for you to do Monday-Friday that relate to what we are learning throughout the week rather than giving out a worksheet. We are aware that weekends with a family are busy and these are things we feel can fit in to your daily lives together .

- Bake a cake! Weighing ingredients and counting spoonfuls.
- After half term we will be learning to tell the time - do you have a watch? What about a clock in your house? Make a time table using o'clock and half past. What time do you go to your clubs? What time is your favourite TV show on?
- Go digraph and trigraph spotting! How many can you find in your house?
- 2D/3D shape hunt! What shapes can you spot in your house and garden?

School Website

Please do check our Year One section on the school website. Each week we will be putting photographs up and the Newsletter for you to access online. There are lots of exciting things on the school website for all to read and enjoy so please make use of it. ☺

Learning Stories

Learning Stories will be sent out this weekend for the last fortnight.

Teaching Student

Miss George will be starting with us for her block placement when we return to school after half term.

Dates for your diary

Return to school - 22nd February


Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Mitchell and Miss Cook ☺

We love to read!

Year One have been reading:



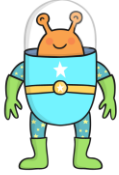
Mrs Mitchell is currently reading:

Matt Haig is reviewed by STEPHEN FRY
REASONS
TO STAY
ALIVE 
Matt Haig
'A small masterpiece that might even save lives' JENNIFER LUNLEY

What are you reading at home?

Phase 5 Letters and Sounds

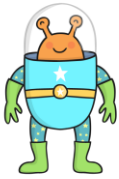
Name these aliens!



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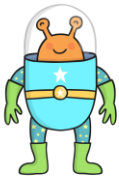
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