



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have had a lovely half term! I am so excited for the new term and our new topic about the Kingdom of Benin! This is a really important unit of History; and one I refer to as a “secret part of UK history” in that it isn’t mentioned very much! However, this topic helps the children understand how to live in **solidarity** with other cultures and offers the opportunity for some debates! I hope the children really enjoy learning about it.

In Science, we are going to continue with the opportunity to revisit past science topics but in a very abstract way; testing the children’s **resilience** through many investigations. We are going to be exploring the wider heading of “materials and their properties”, but breaking it down into conductivity, dissolvability, and many other ways to classify materials by their properties.

In RE, we will be starting “Dialogue and Encounter”, which is exploring the conversion of St Paul on the road to Damascus; and understanding the Islamic faith. We have already done a bit on Islam this term as part of our Awe and Wonder unit, so I will be hoping to see a lot of **confidence** from the children!

In RSHE, we will complete a small unit on Crime and Punishment. This is because the children are either are, or are almost, 10. In the UK, this is the age of Criminal responsibility- when the Law deems that children of this age are capable of knowing right from wrong. The children have engaged so well with this; showing a deep understanding about their place in their local communities. We will then move onto First Aid to help the children understand how to keep themselves and others safe.

Our DEAR time books are: The week at World’s End, by Emma Carroll.

Things to remember:

- Please continue to read with your child at least 5 times a week, and practice their spellings with them. Consistently reading these with your children really does help enable them to **be the best they can be**.
- PE kit, please can children come to school in their **PE kit** on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**.
- Homework – this will be set on a Friday and will need to be in the following Wednesday. Please speak to me if printed copies are needed.
- Please ensure your child continues to bring a named water bottle in each day.

As ever, I am always on the playground at the end of the day if you have any questions or concerns. If you need to contact me in another way, please email FAO Mrs Carr via admin@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support in your child’s last term of Year 5!

Regards
Mrs Carr