



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have had a peaceful and restorative Easter break. I am so excited for the new term and our new topic about VOLCANOES! We have already had a sneak peek at volcanoes before the Easter holidays, so I can't wait to get stuck in and explore the exciting world of volcanoes with the children.

In Science, we have 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 "Ends of the Earth", which is exploring the "Apostolic Church", "Communion of Saints" and the "Creed". These are all key words which will be introduced early on to the children in the aim that they **aspire** to use them in their writing. In fact, using key vocabulary in written work is an aim for this term across all our subjects!

Towards the end of the term, in RSHE, we will start a small unit on Crime and Punishment. This is because the children are either, 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. We will be looking at what a crime is, what being criminally responsible means, how to avoid crime and what we can do for our community (linking with the **Catholic Social Teaching** principle of **Community and Participation**). As ever, the **Catholic life and mission** is closely woven through, but if you have any concerns, please contact me.

Our DEAR time books are: Asha and the Spirit bird, by Jasbinder Bilan (we are on Chapter 30!) and 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 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

Regards
Mrs Carr