



Welcome Back!

Happy New Year! We hope that you have all had a fun-filled yet restful break. It has been lovely to see so many cheery faces ready for the new term, followed by even cheerier ones from the parents!

Spring is season of new life and we are looking forward to seeing the dark and gloomy winter days brighten up. In the meantime, please can you continue to ensure that your child has a (named) coat with them every day and a change of footwear for playing on the field. Many thanks.

Our Spring Term Curriculum.

This term's topic comes under the heading of, 'Time for Climate change?' This topic is geographically based and will involve the children exploring maps, globes, hemispheres and tropics. They will be able to investigate different views—such as 'bird's eye' and understand scale and keys. Who knows? We may even have some future explorers!

In Science, we will be investigating Forces (including magnets) followed by Light.

Successful outside learning

During the Autumn term, we enjoyed some really effective hands-on learning such as building Stone Age shelters and cooking Stone Age stew which were a great success!

This term, plans are equally as exciting, with physical classroom plans being constructed, treasure hunts, using aerial photographs and plans of the school. It should be great!

Wider Experiences!

Our school trips have become one of the most successful parts of our curriculum with children being able to immerse themselves in the topic they are learning. We are excited to have booked a visit to Flatford to spend time with their experts from the Field Studies Council! The children will be encouraged to 'think like a climate scientist' and to explore the wonder of our local surroundings.

This will be an interesting and enjoyable learning experience for Middle School!

Home-Learning

Home learning continues to be an essential part of your child's learning and is set every Friday. It is expected to be bought in the following Friday. Home learning prepares children for learning that they will be doing or consolidates learning they have been doing in class.

Times Tables Rock Stars is an important part of ongoing home learning—every child has their own log in so please ask one of us if your child does not know theirs.

Children are also expected to read five times a week.

'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 15:12).

Other useful reminders

Please ensure that your child **always** has the following items in school:

- Coat (**named**)
- Water bottle (**named**)
- PE kit including plimsolls and an outdoor kit including trainers (**named**)
- Book bag or similar with reading book and reading diary and homework folder.

Part of our safeguarding against COVID 19 involves keeping the classrooms well-ventilated which means windows are kept open. Please ensure you send your child in to school with a jumper or cardigan to prevent them becoming cold and distracted from their learning.

Dates for your diary

Census Day—Thursday **18th January**

NSPCC Number Day - **Friday 2nd February**

Half term holiday- **week beginning 19th February**

Parent Consultations- **28th and 29th February**

School Trip— **Monday 4th March**

Last day of Spring term— **Thursday 28th March**

Remember that lots of important information can be found on the school website:

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/>

Our Calendar and Important Dates

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/calendar/>

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/key-information/school-holidays-and-term-dates/>

Our Newsletters

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/news/>

Our Curriculum

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/curriculum-and-classes/curriculum/>

Our Safeguarding

<https://st-osyth.essex.sch.uk/key-information/information-hub/#safeguarding>

With best wishes for a Happy New Year and a successful Spring Term,

The Middle School Team