ST MARGARET'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
Autumn Term

Collective Worship theme: Courage

Explorers Class are learning..... mostly through play.

A lot of our curriculum is very play based. On our timetable we have a section called learning through play – this is where the children have the opportunity to learn and develop their skills through hands on play based activities. If your child ever comes out and said all they did was play – great - however the play was planned and structured to help them to learn.

Communication Language and Literacy 	Phonics: This term we start learning phonics, using letter sounds to help us to sound out words for reading and beginning to use letter sounds in our writing. Keep an eye out in book bags for sheets to support learning at home. English: We are starting by sharing stories daily, before moving on to looking at stories for a longer time. We will be reading, Where the Wild Things Are, Oh dear, look what I got and Colin's Castle all before half term. We will then be using our phonics knowledge to help us to write lists and label objects. Handwriting: A key part of this term is learning how to hold pencils properly using a tripod grip. We will be doing lots of fine and gross motor skill activities to support us so we are ready to write.
Maths: 	We are starting the year by looking at matching, finding things that are the same and things that are different. By Christmas we will have looked at numbers up to 6. We not only look at counting but also subitizing (recognizing the number shown in lots of different ways). In addition to daily maths lessons we will have maths opportunities out in provision
Knowledge and Understanding of the World around us: 	We are going to be learning all about ourselves, who is in our family, the different parts of our bodies and how we have changed since being a baby. We will then look at hibernation and all things Christmassy!
Expressive Arts and Music: 	We are going to be looking at colour mixing and the order of the colours of the rainbow. We are going to be using chalks, crayons, pencils and paint to create lots of different pieces of art work linked to our topics, the time of year (fireworks, Christmas etc) as well as whatever we fancy creating. There is a special board in our classroom where we can chose to display the art work we have created.
Physical development: 	We are going to be doing lots of moving, developing our gross and fine motor skills. On a Friday, Mrs Anderton will be taking us for PE where we will be doing a range of activities.
RE: 	We are going to begin by looking at what makes a story special, thinking about stories that our special to us and those that are special to some religions. Then we will start practicing for our Nativity play and learning about why people put on nativities at Christmas time.

"We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us" Philippians 4:13