

## Year 2 - Spring Term 2026 – Topic Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to welcome the children back to school. We look forward to sharing the outcomes of our Arts Week very soon.

### History

We are learning about how life in Barnstaple has changed over time with a focus on the River Taw and its bridges. We will be enjoying a history walk along the river to compare pictures from the past with the present day – more details to follow. The website [barnstaplehistory.com](http://barnstaplehistory.com) is a fantastic site you can view at home. There are some fabulous pictures of Barnstaple in the past.

### English

Our Oracy (speaking and listening) targets this term are:

- Respect everyone's opinion, even if it's different to your own.
- Ask questions to help you understand better.

We will spend most of this term learning to write Traditional Tales. We will be reading Little Red Riding Hood and looking at lots of different versions. Later in the term, we will learn more about family life in the past with the book, Peepo.

### Maths

This half-term the children will be continuing to learn about addition and subtraction. Initially, we will be working on adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. We will be focusing on bridging 10 to help us solve addition and subtraction questions more efficiently. To help at home practise your bonds to 20. It helps knowing how smaller numbers add together to make larger numbers and if we know them quickly it can help with bigger problems.

Following this, the children will be learning about multiplication and division. We will be learning the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. At home, please practise counting in 2's, 5's and 10's.

### Science

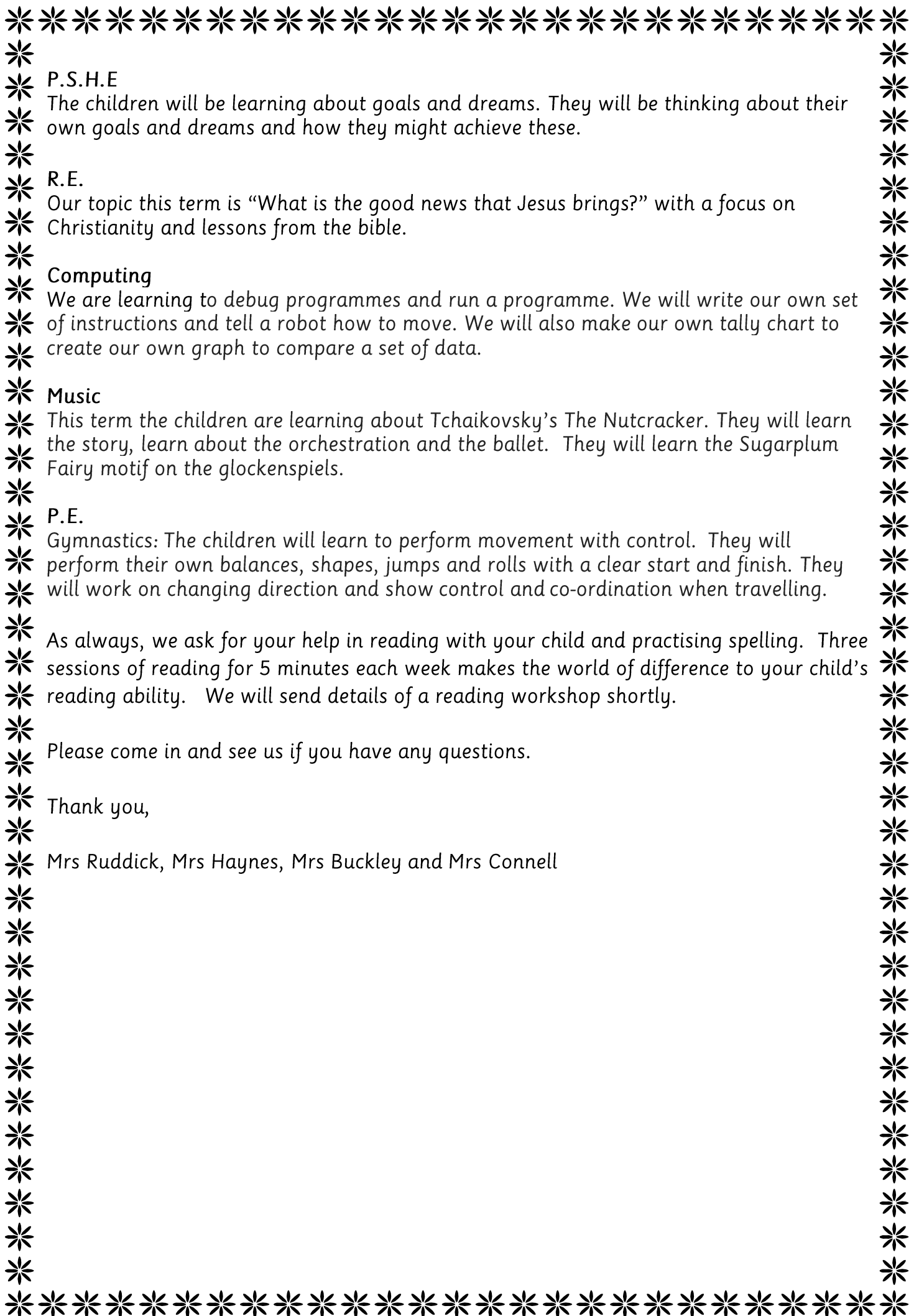
This half-term the children will be learning about materials. They will investigate the varying properties of different materials and explain why certain materials are suitable or not suitable to be made into different objects. We will focus on wood, metal, fabric, plastic and glass.

### Design Technology

We have a fun project on bridge building which will link closely to our science and history work. The children will build, test and evaluate bridges using a variety of materials.

### Geography

We will learn about human features and create our own town plans and maps. We will learn how to use and create a map key.



**P.S.H.E**

The children will be learning about goals and dreams. They will be thinking about their own goals and dreams and how they might achieve these.

**R.E.**

Our topic this term is “What is the good news that Jesus brings?” with a focus on Christianity and lessons from the bible.

**Computing**

We are learning to debug programmes and run a programme. We will write our own set of instructions and tell a robot how to move. We will also make our own tally chart to create our own graph to compare a set of data.

**Music**

This term the children are learning about Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker. They will learn the story, learn about the orchestration and the ballet. They will learn the Sugarplum Fairy motif on the glockenspiels.

**P.E.**

Gymnastics: The children will learn to perform movement with control. They will perform their own balances, shapes, jumps and rolls with a clear start and finish. They will work on changing direction and show control and co-ordination when travelling.

As always, we ask for your help in reading with your child and practising spelling. Three sessions of reading for 5 minutes each week makes the world of difference to your child’s reading ability. We will send details of a reading workshop shortly.

Please come in and see us if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Mrs Ruddick, Mrs Haynes, Mrs Buckley and Mrs Connell