

Barnabas Class

A very warm welcome to Year 4 with Mrs Oates, Miss Faryniuk, Mrs Rodgers and Mrs O'Callaghan.

Spiritual	Trusted	Resilient	Inquisitive	Valued	Exceptional
*Show respect *Have beliefs *Be reflective	*Be relied upon *Show responsibility *Take care of people and property	*Have a go *Keep on trying *Show independence	*Ask questions *Be eager to learn *Discover new things	*Listen to each other *Work as a team *Share opinions	*Be outstanding *Show your strengths *Take on challenge

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At St Simon's, we use the acronym **STRIVE** to guide and inspire us in all that we hope to become. Each attribute within **STRIVE** encourages us to aim high and to be the very best version of ourselves, each and every day.

This academic year, our focus is on what it means to be **exceptional**. For Year 4 this means, being able to develop upon and consolidate our strengths, seek out challenges and reflect upon our own growth and development. Children who show aspects of **exceptional** in their learning will have the opportunity to win a **STRIVE** award.

We take inspiration from 'Barnabas,' an **exceptional** individual in the New Testament who was known as a "son of encouragement." Barnabas consistently supported and encouraged others to grow in their faith. He recognised and celebrated God's work in individuals lives and encouraged believers to remain faithful. His example reminds us of the importance of kindness, encouragement, generosity and helping others to flourish.

Class Dojo

The school uses Class Dojo as a way to promote **STRIVE**. On Dojo, your child will receive points for displaying the key skills within **STRIVE**. Please make sure you have signed up to so that I can share your child's learning with you, throughout the block. Moreover, please use this parental platform to contact Mrs Oates with any queries that you have.

PE

This block, the children's PE days will take place **every Wednesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor) with the primary focus being on Hockey and Dodgeball**. On these days, the children will be expected to attend school in their outdoor PE kit consisting of navy blue shorts, a pale blue polo shirt and their normal school jumper/cardigan.



Block 1

What will we be learning in this block?

Welcome to Block 1! This term, our learning is driven by the concept question:

"How did the Ancient Greeks use their creativity and resilience to overcome conflicts and shape their world?"

We will access this through the themes of **creativity, conflict and resilience.**

During this block of learning, we are going to start with our amazing topic Ancient Greece, where we are going to be investigating the question, How did the Ancient Greeks use their creativity and resilience to overcome conflicts and shape their world? This hugely significant time period lends itself to an enormous amount of learning as we explore who the Ancient Greeks were and how they influenced the world.

In RE, we will reflect upon Creation and Covenant considering Christian beliefs about how people are called to live in harmony with God, one another and the world.

In Literacy, we will be launching our new Ready Steady Write scheme of learning, which provides children with enriched opportunities to enhance their sentence structure and grammar skills in preparation for planning, writing and editing a successful setting narrative and newspaper report inspired by our focus text, *The Whale* by Ethan and Vita Murrow.

In Maths, the children will deepen their understanding of number by exploring place value up to 1,000, learning to partition and represent numbers in flexible ways, and investigating how digits change when finding 1, 10, 100 and 1,000 more or less. They will also practice estimating where numbers belong on a range of number lines, strengthening their sense of scale and numerical relationships. Alongside this, children will continue to build fluency with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts, providing a strong foundation for confident problem solving and reasoning in mathematics.

In PE we will begin the term with our energetic **dodgeball** topic, where children will learn that success relies on patience, determination and teamwork. As they practise catching, dodging and throwing, they will develop resilience, staying focused and positive even when faced with challenges. These qualities will be transferred to **hockey** as they learn to control, pass and move with the ball, developing their skills while building confidence and supporting others as part of a team.

Homework

Please see below the homework schedule. Please note that homework is set on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday to allow for sufficient turn around time.

If your child is a free reader, they will choose their reading book with staff to ensure they are exposed to a variety of genres found within our school library.

	Reading books	Homework set
Monday	Change reading books (if required, reading records checked for signatures from home)	
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday	Change reading books (if required)	Maths homework journal is collected in for marking and is returned back to the children on Friday.
Friday		Spellings Set every Friday, tested the following Friday. Reading eggs Scheduled online every Friday. The task remains live for one week. Maths Journal Double page spread, set every Friday, due the following Thursday. TT Rockstars & Hit the Button This is optional for your child to develop their multiplication fluency in preparation for the Multiplication Check.



Key dates

Please see below the following key dates for your dairy:

- Tuesday 1st September - Inset Day for Teachers
- Wednesday 2nd September - Beginning of Autumn term.
- Thursday 10th September - Meet the Teacher 3:40pm onwards.
- Thursday 24th September - School photographer.
- Friday 25th September - Year 4 Class Assembly in the School Hall from 2:45pm onwards.
- Saturday 26th September - KS2 Stockport Harriers Cross Country Race from 10:30am.
- Wednesday 30th September - School Nurse drop in session.
- Thursday 8th October - Year 4 Mass with Fr Phillip from 2:45pm onwards.
- Friday 9th October - PTA Family night at St Peter's Parish Centre from 7pm onwards.
- Thursday 22nd October - Parent - Teacher meetings (Virtual on School Cloud) 3:45-7:00pm.
- Friday 23rd October - Children break up for half term.
- Saturday 31st October - KS2 Stockport Harriers Cross Country Race from 10:30am.
- Monday 2nd November - School re-opens.
- Friday 13th November - Fun Friday.

Thank you in advance for your continued support throughout the year to aid your child's development and progress. The partnership between school and home is crucial to reinforce the key concepts learnt and to enable your child to reach their full potential.

We are looking forward to what the year ahead holds. If you have any questions or queries, please contact me directly on Class Dojo.

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Our PTA have a Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Simons-Catholic-Primary-School-PTA-649590165143369>