



# GOODNESS CLASS

## Year 5 with Miss Cliffe

| Spiritual   | Trusted   | Resilient   | Inquisitive  | Valued   | Exceptional   |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Lead class prayers and worship.</li> <li>*Lead whole school mass and liturgies.</li> <li>*Seek time for personal reflection.</li> <li>*Strengthen your own beliefs and values; respecting those of others.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Pose ideas and listen to feedback.</li> <li>*Restore and repair relationships with others.</li> <li>*Take responsibility for own learning; in school and outside of school.</li> <li>*Be a positive ambassador for St Simon's.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Embrace and initiate challenges.</li> <li>*Welcome critique and act upon it.</li> <li>*Learn and build upon prior experiences.</li> <li>*Persevere with difficult tasks.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Evaluate effectiveness of resources &amp; research.</li> <li>*Develop a sense of wonder.</li> <li>*Seek and act upon advice &amp; expertise.</li> <li>*Try something new.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Participate in group and pair work, evaluating the effectiveness of roles &amp; contributions.</li> <li>*Celebrate success (your own and that of others).</li> <li>*Contribute to the school community.</li> <li>*Commit to ideas that aren't my own.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Develop and consolidate strengths.</li> <li>*Seek out challenge.</li> <li>*Reflect upon growth and development.</li> <li>*Be the best that you can be.</li> </ul> |

### Dear Parents and Guardians,

This year our class will be known as Goodness Class, a name that reflects one of the core values of our Catholic faith. Goodness is more than simply doing what is right – it is living in a way that reflects God’s love and kindness, choosing words and actions that bring light and hope to others.

In Scripture we are reminded that goodness is a fruit of the Spirit, a gift that helps us to grow into the people God calls us to be. By striving to live with goodness, we learn to value the dignity of others, to show compassion and respect, and to nurture the gifts within ourselves. In this way, goodness helps us not only to feel valued, but also to become a person who brings value to our community and the wider world.

### Class Dojo

The school uses Class Dojo as a way to promote **STRIVE** as well as being an opportunity for you to contact Miss Cliffe about any query you may have. Please make sure you have signed up so that we can share all our learning with you.



### PE

PE takes place every Wednesday and Thursday. On these days, children will be expected to attend school in their PE kit, which consists of navy blue shorts or jogging bottoms, a pale blue polo shirt and their normal school jumper/cardigan.



## Block 3

Our writing this term has been inspired by *The Promise* by Nicola Davies. Pupils explored themes of hope, responsibility and transformation, using these ideas to craft powerful persuasive letters. They developed their ability to use emotive language, rhetorical questions and strong arguments to encourage others to care for the world around them.

In geography, we investigated global trade and sustainability. Pupils learned how everyday products travel from producers to consumers, examined the impact of supply chains on people and the environment, and explored the principles of Fair Trade. They considered how informed choices can support communities and protect the planet.

Our science learning took us into space. Pupils explored why we experience night and day, how Earth's tilt creates the seasons, and what causes the phases of the Moon — including a memorable hands-on model using Jaffa Cakes. They also compared old and new theories of the solar system, discussing how scientific ideas change over time as evidence grows.

In RE, we spent time reflecting on the journey towards Easter, thinking deeply about Jesus' final days and what they reveal about sacrifice, love and hope. After Easter, our focus turned to Pentecost. Pupils learned about the coming of the Holy Spirit, the transformation of the disciples, and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit that guide Christians in their daily lives.


## Reading


Reading is the key to academic success! As well as immersing children into different imaginative worlds, it enriches their vocabulary and comprehension skills! Reading every day will ensure your child makes progress. Please support the development of our amazing independent readers and ensure your child reads for around 20 minutes per evening, recording this in their reading record.


## Block 4

This unit invites pupils to think like historians, archaeologists and storytellers as they explore the overarching question: How did conflict, power and tradition shape life in Anglo-Saxon and Viking times?

Through the themes of Conflict, Power and Tradition, pupils will uncover how these early societies lived, ruled and clashed — and how their choices shaped the world they left behind.

 **Conflict** – Pupils will investigate the dramatic encounters between Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, exploring why raids and battles took place and what both sides hoped to gain. They will examine causes such as land, resources and control, and consider the consequences for villages, kingdoms and everyday families. This theme encourages pupils to think critically about how conflict reshapes communities and cultures.

 **Power** – Through studying kings, chieftains and local leaders, pupils will explore how authority was gained, maintained and challenged. They will investigate early laws, systems of governance and the responsibilities leaders held within their societies. This theme helps pupils understand how power structures influenced decision-making, justice and the stability of kingdoms.

 **Tradition** – Pupils will delve into the beliefs, customs and daily life of Anglo-Saxon and Viking people. They will explore religion, festivals, clothing, homes and the rituals that shaped identity and belonging. By examining how traditions were passed down and preserved, pupils will consider how culture influences social structure and community life.



## THE MILLION WORD GAP

New research shows the different numbers of words kids will have heard by age 5 based on how often parents read to them:

Never read to: 4,662 words

1-2 times per week: 63,570 words

3-5 times per week: 169,520 words

Daily: 296,660 words

Five books a day: 1,483,300 words





## Homework



Please see below for the homework schedule. If your a child/children is a free reader they will take turns with staff to choose their books to ensure they are exposed to a variety of genres. Regardless of what day your child finishes their book, we will endeavour to change it for them (time allowing).

|           | <b>Homework set</b>   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | Spellings (set and then tested the following Monday)  |
| Tuesday   |   |
| Wednesday |   |
| Thursday  | <b>Maths homework due</b>   |
| Friday    | <b>Reading Eggs due</b><br><br>Maths homework set in White Rose Homework Journal<br><br>Reading Eggs task set |

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

If you have any questions or queries, please contact Miss Cliffe on Class Dojo.

Follow us on X:

@StSimonsSch

Our PTA have a Facebook Page:

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



## Important Dates

### May

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holiday
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> - INSET day
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Fun Friday
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> - Y5 Assembly
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Anglo-Saxons and Vikings trip
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Half term

### June

- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - Return from half-term
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> - Y5 Mass
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> - Talent Show
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> - Father's Day sale
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> - St Peter and Paul Mass

### July

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July - St James' taster morning
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - KS2 Sports Day (2pm)
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> - Y5 reports emailed to parents
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> - Leavers' Mass
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Leavers' assembly

School closed for summer holidays

