



# GOODNESS CLASS

Year 5 with Miss Cliffe and Mrs Collinge

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 Monday (swimming), Thursday (rugby) and Friday (Stockport County - until Christmas). 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.

We will be continuing with swimming lessons every Monday morning until Christmas. Children need to come to school in their P.E. kits with a separate bag containing their swimming essentials.

## Block 1

We explored the inspiring book 'When We Walked on the Moon', using it as a springboard to write imaginative space narratives and formal space logs. Pupils developed their descriptive skills and experimented with tone and structure.

In science, our focus has been on animal groups and life cycles. Children investigated similarities, differences and patterns across species, deepening their understanding of growth and change in the natural world.

We journeyed through World War II, learning about the causes of the conflict, how it was fought, and how Britain rebuilt in its aftermath. Pupils showed great curiosity and empathy as they explored this significant period.

In Religious Education, we studied Creation and Covenant, focusing on the journey of Moses and the Israelites out of Egypt. Pupils reflected thoughtfully on themes of faith, leadership and trust in God.




## 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 2

This half term, pupils will explore the continent of South America through three key themes: Diversity, Community, and Sustainability.

 **Diversity** - We'll investigate South America's striking geographical contrasts — from the Amazon rainforest and Andes mountains to the Atacama desert and bustling coastal cities. Pupils will learn about major countries and capitals including Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Peru, and explore the continent's rich cultural tapestry shaped by Indigenous heritage, colonial history, and modern urban life.

 **Community** - Through case studies, pupils will compare how people live across different environments — rainforest tribes, Pampas farmers, and city dwellers in São Paulo. They'll reflect on how geography influences housing, transport, jobs, and schooling, and compare daily life in Brazil with North West England. We'll also explore how festivals, traditions, and shared values help build strong community identities.

 **Sustainability** - Pupils will examine environmental challenges facing South America, including deforestation in the Amazon and urban pressures in growing cities. They'll consider how countries across the continent — and here in the UK — are working to protect biodiversity, improve urban living, and promote sustainable futures.

## 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).  
All homework is to be completed for the following Thursday.

	Reading books	Homework set
<b>Monday</b>		Spellings (Set and then tested every Monday)
<b>Tuesday</b>	Check reading records	
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>		<b>Maths homework due</b> <b>Reading Eggs due</b>
<b>Friday</b>	Check reading records	Maths homework set in White Rose Homework Book  Reading Eggs task

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.

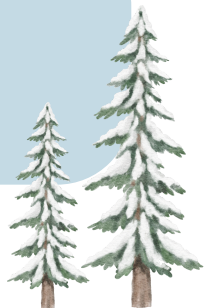
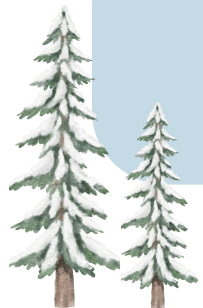
Mrs Collinge and I are looking forward to what next block ahead holds. If you have and questions or queries, please contact Miss Cliffe on Class Dojo.

Follow us on X:

@StSimonsSch

Our PTA have a Facebook Page:

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





## Important Dates

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Cross Country at Woodbank Park

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Fair

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - St Andrew's House wear blue to school

- Blessing of the Advent Wreath (2:45pm)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Year 5 Celebration of the Word

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December - Year 5 Final Swimming Lesson

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Pantomime

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas dinner and class parties

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Carols and Coffee

