



## Shakespeare Class – Autumn 2016 Newsletter

First of all, may I say how delighted to be joining the family of St Barnabas School – what a fantastic community it is! Mrs McLaughlin helps us on Monday – Wednesday and Mrs O’Kelly is with us all week except Wednesday. Can I encourage you to come and speak to me if there are any concerns or queries – you can always catch me after school. Alternatively, write a note in your child’s homework diary (when we get them!) and I will respond to you by note/phone.

**Topic (1)** For the first few weeks of this term we are finding out about how we learn. We have already done the entry task, and the children absolutely amazed me by showing maturity and patience during it – which was to teach another child a skill they had. The topics we will touch on are:

The different areas of the brain; memory and how we can improve it; the difference between a growth mindset and a fixed mindset in learning new things.

**Topic (2)** For the rest of the term we shall be entering the exciting world of forensic science, and the children will become investigators of crimes and all sorts! In Science, we’ll be finding out:

- About several ways to investigate in science
- How to make sure our investigations are well designed and reliable
- About several materials and their properties

We have an exciting entry task planned – watch this space!! As part of this topic we are planning a trip to Yorkshire Museum to do a workshop on Forensic Science. If you can help accompany us on trips, please let me know.

### **Behaviour Management**

I aim to focus on rewarding positive behaviour and, as such, we have a varied range of rewards in class; such as team points, class points, crystals and the weekly Achievement Awards and Behaviour King & Queen of the week.

If a child fails to follow class rules we have a “Traffic Light” system of sanctions, where all children start on green and can move to Amber (warning) and Red (consequence), which both warrant losing some playtime. I will record any warnings or consequences in your child’s homework diary so that you are informed.

### **HOMEWORK!!**

Homework will be given out on Wednesdays – to be returned the following Wednesday.

I usually give out a piece of literacy and maths and children will have spellings to learn for a test on Wednesday.

Please sign your child’s homework diary and write any comments in it.