



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

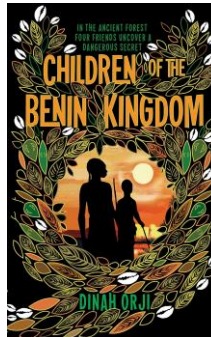
Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter: Summer term 1



We hope that this helps you to understand and talk with your child about the learning that will be taking place this half term.

ENGLISH – reading

Linking in with our History topic, our novel for this term is the adventure story 'Children of the Benin Kingdom' by Dinah Orji



In our reading comprehension sessions, the children also experience a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, based on a range of subjects relating to the whole curriculum and to special events.

Please continue to read the book sent home from school with your child at least four times a week.

Read Theory continues to be our English homework and is a fantastic way of developing children's comprehension skills at their own level. Please contact school if you have lost your log in!

Maths homework is set weekly on Century and TT Rockstars.

RE



Here are our topics for this half term:

In this branch we are introduced to John. Scholars believe that John was the Apostle who was described as the one who Jesus 'loved'. He was seated next to Jesus at the last supper and was the only one named at the foot of the cross when he was crucified. It is believed that this was the last of the Gospels to be written because John thought very deeply about what he had personally experienced. John wasn't writing to people who had necessarily seen Jesus but to a new generation of believers and people who were asking questions about who he really was. John's Gospel is very descriptive. He uses lots of rich symbolic language e.g. bread, shepherd, sheep, light, etc. to illustrate his points and people hearing them would have been very familiar with what he was talking about. He describes some events which are not in the other Gospel accounts. In this branch, pupils will complete the narrative of St Peter as they look at the Resurrection from St John's gospel and make links with St Matthew's account of Peter's declaration of faith and subsequent betrayal. Through the story of St Peter, they will look at the role of the Pope as St Peter's successor and begin to understand the structure of the Church today and why it is called 'apostolic'. Understanding of this will begin at a local church level, but teachers could expand to look at the role of the Archbishop and the diocese.

First Holy Communion preparation

At the end of April, the children will be making their First Holy Communions. They have been taking part in class masses each month to get ready for the sacrament. The dates for the FHC are:

Tuesday 28th April at 1:30pm – 4L

Wednesday 29th April at 1:30pm – 4P

Thursday 30th April at 1:30pm – 4R

Friday 1st May at 1:30pm – 4W

PSHE

Online responsibility

E-safety is something which we take very seriously. It is important that our children learn to use the internet responsibly and safely, and we will explore the challenges of this during this unit of work.



This term, we will be:

Studying **SOUND**. We will learn about how sound travels from different objects to our ears, before exploring the science of how to make changes in the pitch and volume of different sounds

COMPUTING

'Endangered species'

We will be exploring how to use different forms of presentation on Computing devices to help raise awareness of issues. This unit includes taking and editing photographs and producing posters and films.

GEOGRAPHY

'How does water go round and round?'

Rivers form the basis of this unit of work. We will learn about the water cycle and also about the formation of rivers in general. Following on from this, we will study different world rivers, thinking about their natural landscapes and also about the impact that humans have upon rivers.



HISTORY

'What was life like in the ancient kingdom of Benin?'

This unit of work focuses on the culturally rich life of ancient Benin (modern day Nigeria). The children will be comparing and contrasting the day to day life of Benin in the late middle ages with the civilisations in Europe and Ancient Egypt that they have already studied.



SPANISH

In the first half of term, our specialist Spanish teacher will be teaching the children sentence structures that they can use to express their opinions. This will then be linked to new learning on the vocabulary of different sports.

"Nos gusta aprender español en St Paul's."

PE

'Cricket'

Summer is on its way and we will be practising and honing our striking and fielding skills, as well as beginning to learn the rules of sports like cricket. We are looking forward to some matches in the sun!

If you have any questions about our curriculum, or any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,

The Year 4 teaching team:

Mrs. Wickham, Miss Palmer, Mrs. Lewis and Miss Roberts