



# ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter: Spring term (second half)



We are pleased to be able to share with you the content of the curriculum that your children will receive until half term.

This half term, all our learning is centred around social justice, linking to Catholic Social Teaching. The children will be learning about the experiences of refugees and thinking, in an age appropriate manner, about the issues surrounding the refugee question.

### ENGLISH

We will continue to read the classic 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis.



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. Some of our children will also continue to receive 'Read, Write, Inc' phonics interventions to improve reading fluency.

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

# ENGLISH – writing

We base the teaching of our writing on the language and structure found in quality texts.

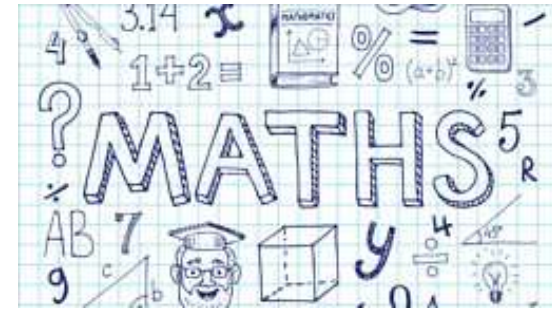
## Narrative writing:

Our writing this term is linked to our refugee topic. The children will be reading 'Wisp: a Story of Hope' by Zana Fraillon. This beautiful story explores how hope can bring light to even the darkest of places. The children will be producing a range of creative writing in response.



## POETRY - HAIKUS:

We will study the poetic form of a Haiku, with the children writing poems about the refugee crisis using this structure.



This half term we will cover the following topics:

- Length and Perimeter
- Fractions
- Decimals

For each topic, we work through the following sequence, encouraging the mastery approach in Maths which helps the children to apply their knowledge:

1. We practise the skill.
2. We answer reasoning questions based on the skill.
3. We problem solve, applying the skill we have learnt.

You can view our calculation policy on the school website, which may help you to understand how we teach Maths in school.

<https://www.spcj.co.uk/letters/> We will also complete weekly basic skills sessions, which help the children to practise core mathematical skills

Maths homework is set weekly on Seesaw. All children also have their TT Rock Stars logins to help them improve their times tables fluency.

## RE



Here are our topics for this half term:

### Desert to Garden

In this branch, we will explore Lent's themes of forgiveness and reconciliation and the idea that devotion to God leads a person to do good works. We will also look at Holy Week in St Matthew's gospel and see that St Matthew shows Jesus as the servant-Messiah. For Lent, we will explore two parables.

Year 4 children will be presenting the story of Easter through song, story and drama at the end of this term. We will let you know dates as soon as possible!

Children will also be continuing with preparations for their First Holy Communion, which take place in May. Children will be attending morning mass once this half term, getting to know and understand the mass before taking communion for themselves.

## PSHE

Here are our topics for this half term:

### CHANGING EMOTIONS:

In this topic we will be:

- Gaining a deeper understanding of the range and intensity of our feelings and that positive actions help emotional well-being.

## MUSIC

### 'No Place Like Home'

This unit is based around the work of composer Kerry Andrew, who uses body percussion and graphic scores to communicate the concept of 'home' through Music.

## DT

### 'Food Technology'

Our pupils will be exploring Greek cuisine, tasting flatbreads, dips and salad, before designing and creating their own Greek platter.

## Art

### 'Matisse'

We will study the life and work of Henri Matisse, looking particularly at his later prints and collages. These will then be used as inspiration for the children to create their own prints based upon the theme, 'Hope'.



## SPANISH

In the first half of term, our specialist Spanish teacher will be revising how to say the names of animals in Spanish, before moving onto creating sentences describing in which habitats they may be found.

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



## PE

### 'Outdoor adventure'

In this unit, OAA (outdoor adventurous activities) allows pupils to develop problem solving skills through a range of challenges. We will learn to work independently, as a pair and in a small group to plan, explore, solve, reflect and improve on strategies. We will develop communication skills, taking on the role of a leader and working within a team. We will also develop navigation skills including orientating a map, identifying key symbols and drawing and following a route.

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