



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter: Summer term (first half)



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

Our novel for this half term in class is the extraordinary, brilliant and award winning 'Rooftoppers' by the fantastic Katherine Rundell.



As ever, 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 with your child at least four times a week.

Children have Comprehension and English Grammar homework books that are given out on a two-week rolling programme.

ENGLISH – writing

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

Narrative:

This term, we will be basing our creative writing on the short film 'Swing of Change'.

Journalistic writing

Our non-fiction unit for this half term is journalistic writing, with the children producing pieces of writing linked to our history topic.

GRAMMAR:

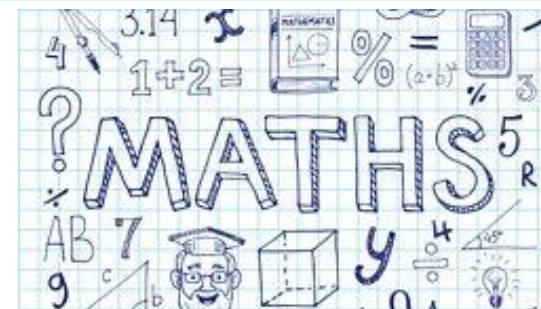
We will continue to build on and expand upon the children's knowledge of grammar, looking especially this term at:

- Using commas to avoid ambiguity
- Converting between direct and indirect speech

SPELLINGS:

As well as recapping over previous spelling patterns, we will be focusing on:

- Homophones
- Near homophones



This half term we will cover the following topics:

- Perimeter & Area
- Statistics

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 link the skill to questions involving units of measure.
3. We complete missing box questions relating to the skill.
4. We answer reasoning questions based on the skill.
5. 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 sent home on a two-week rolling programme – one week is a Maths CGP book and the other week is TT Rockstars.

RE



Here are our topics for this half term:

TRANSFORMATION:

We will think about the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, developing our understanding of what happened to Cleopas on the road to Emmaus and also of the impact that Paul's conversion had on both him and on Christians throughout the generations.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY:

We will think about the free will that God gives each of us, but also about the responsibilities that we have. Studying the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments will help shape our vision of God's ideal for our lives.

PSHE

In PSHE, this half term we will be covering the topics:

- Online Image, Identity and Behaviour

Here we will think about the ways we portray ourselves and behave online, focusing on how to stay safe and be respectful in all our online dealings.

- Managing money

We will discuss the different payment methods used in the world today, as well as introducing the children to budgeting and financial planning. The children will be encouraged to think about the impact that money has on our lives.

Promoting physical and mental wellbeing is central to our curriculum approach and forms part of our daily life within school.



This term, we will be:

Studying LIVING THINGS AND THEIR HABITATS. We will investigate the differences between the life cycles of amphibians, birds and insects. We will also begin to look at simple reproduction in plants and in some animals.

COMPUTING

'Youtuber'

Every child wants to be a 'Youtuber'. In this activity children will learn about what that actually means and they will explore the positive and negatives associated with being a YouTuber. The children are given the opportunity to create their own vlog, edit and then critique it. In completing this unit, the children will learn about online safety. In relating the learning outcomes to a YouTuber the children will consider the risks of their online lives in a real life scenario. Throughout this activity there are lots of opportunities to discuss online safety with the children.

HISTORY

'What was life like in Victorian Britain?'

The Victorian era was one of immense change, a period which has had a massive impact on not just life in this country, but around the world. We will study Queen Victoria herself, thinking about the style of rule in her reign. We will also investigate the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the towns and cities of Britain, before finishing our unit with a consideration of the pros and cons of the British Empire.



GEOGRAPHY

'Where does all our stuff come from?'

Questions of sustainability and waste are very much at the forefront of public consciousness. We will guide the children through a consideration of the geographical journey undertaken by the raw materials and products that we use on a day to day business. We will also think about the human cost of producing the 'stuff' that we consume, investigating organisations such as Fairtrade.



SPANISH

In the first half of term, our specialist Spanish teacher will be teaching the children vocabulary and sentence structures relating to discussing family members and hobbies.

"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 recapping over the rules of cricket and hopefully enjoying 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 5 teaching team:

Mr. Tunstall, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Osborne and Mr. Flynn