



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!

ENGLISH – writing

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

Guided tour:

Linking to our Geography topic and with Science learning we have completed, we will be exploring the features of a guided tour style speech, before the children create their own 'tour of the journey of a river'.



GRAMMAR:

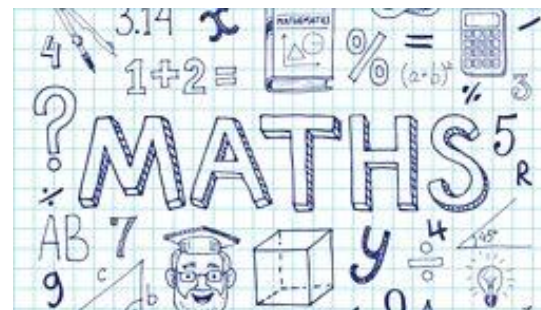
We will continue to build on and expand upon the children's knowledge of grammar, looking especially this term at:

- Verb tenses
- The difference between plural and possessive apostrophes
- Standard English

SPELLINGS:

- Adding the suffix 'ous' where the word ends in 'y'
- Adding the suffix 'ous' where the root word ends in 'e'
- Possessive apostrophe with plural words
- The suffix 'ary'
- Words ending 'ar'

Spelling lessons take place in school, but children can practise as part of their homework, using the tasks and games set on the Emile app. Please ask your class teacher if you have lost your login.



This half term we will cover the following topics:

- Fractions and Decimals
- Estimating and calculating with money
- Time

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 on a fortnightly cycle. One week will be a maths activity, set on Seesaw. On the other week, please encourage your child to build their tables skills by playing Times Tables Rock Stars.

Ten minutes a day is perfect to build fluency!

RE



Here are our topics for this half term:

NEW LIFE:

In this topic, we learn about how the apostles spread the Good News of Jesus following the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

CHOICES:

In this topic, we explore the religious actions and symbols associated with the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

First Holy Communion preparation

We continue our preparations in school, with Father John delivering masses within each Year 4 classroom and speaking to us about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You may wish to help your child with their preparation by coming to Mass at St. Paul's or St. Timothy's on a Sunday. The dates of the First Holy Communion masses are as follows:

4C – 23rd May 9.30am

4G – 24th May 9.30am

4E – 25th May 9.30am

4H – 25th May 9.30am

Children are to wear their school uniforms on their First Holy Communion day. Children who are not receiving communion are still included in our celebrations. Following the masses, we will return to school for the rest of the day. We are looking forward to marking this special day with all of our children!

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

MUSIC



This term, we will be:

Studying RAP. We will listen to different types of rap music, identifying the features and comparing with other musical genres we have covered. We will also be learning and performing our own rap song!

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 Benin?'

This is a brand new unit of work, focusing on the culturally rich life of ancient Benin. The children will be comparing and contrasting the day to day life of this African kingdom in the late Middle Ages with the civilisations in Europe and Ancient Egypt that they have already studied. We can't wait to get going!



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. Clay, Mr. Garrity, Miss Evans and Miss Heritage