



# ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

## Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter: Summer term (first half)

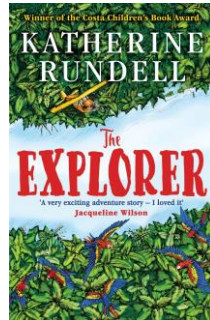


We hope that this helps you to understand and talk with your child about the learning they will be doing this half term.

SATs week begins Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Whilst we are obviously preparing children for this, our curriculum goes beyond this, providing our children with a wealth of learning experiences to prepare them for their transition to KS3.

### ENGLISH – reading

Our novel for this half term in class is the absolutely brilliant, award winning 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell.



In reading comprehension sessions, the children will also continue to 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.

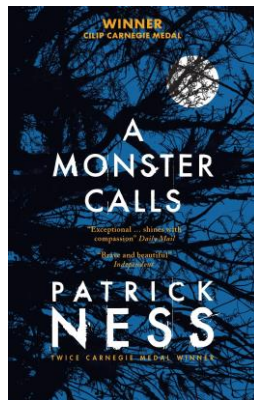
Read Theory continues to be our English homework and is a fantastic way of developing children's comprehension skills at their own level. Please contact school if you have lost your log in!

# ENGLISH – writing

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

## Narrative writing:

Another award winning book is the basis for our next writing unit! The children will create their own fantasy stories based on the fantastic 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness.



## GRAMMAR:

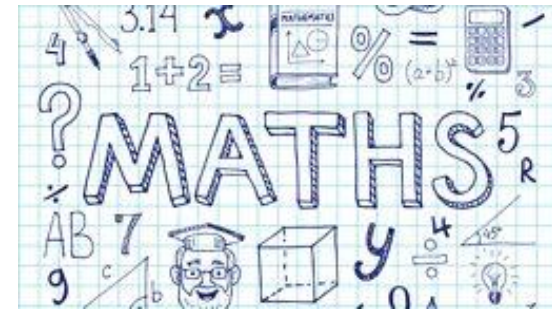
We will continue to build on and expand upon the children's knowledge of grammar, looking especially this term at:

- Standard English
- Formal and informal vocabulary

As always, we revisit and revise grammar learnt across KS2 in our lessons as well.

## SPELLINGS:

Spelling lessons take place regularly in each class. In Year 6, we continually consolidate the spelling rules learnt across the rest of the school. Our new rule for this half term is homophones and other words that are confused. We also endeavour to explore new vocabulary and develop an ambitious approach to word choices for use in writing.



This half term we will cover the following topics:

- Ratio and proportion
- Scale factors
- Symmetry/reflections/rotation/translation
- Statistics, data handling, mean
- Problem solving and reasoning tasks based on previous year 6 objectives and consolidation of the year 6 curriculum.

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.**

## RE



Here are our topics for this half term:

### WITNESS:

Christians believe that the spirit of God is active in each person and in a special way in the community of believers which is the Church. The children will explore the Feast of Pentecost, the celebration both of the gift of God's Holy Spirit and the trust God places in people to be witnesses in the world.

### UNITY:

The children will explore the concept that to receive communion means being in union with Jesus Christ and with one another. They will consider questions such as 'Can I share this Eucharist if I do nothing to help my brother or sister who is hungry?' 'Can I partake of this communion if I refuse to forgive a wrong?'

## PSHE

### Living in the Wider World

- Getting the most from technology
- Risks related to gambling
  - We will explore risks in everyday situations and the risks in relation to gambling.
  - We will also explore how people's spending decisions can affect others and the environment.
- Equality, Inequality and Sustainability
  - We will identify ways of carrying out shared responsibilities for protecting the environment in school, at home and the wider world; how everyday choices can affect the environment.

Promoting physical and mental wellbeing is central to our curriculum approach and forms part of our daily life within school. We also aim to support these further by celebrating **Children's Mental Health Week** and



This term, we will be:

Studying **ANIMALS, INCLUDING HUMANS**. We will explore the circulatory system of the human body, thinking about the functions of blood, blood vessels and the heart. We will then think about the impact of diet and exercise on our bodies, as well as considering how different types of drugs affect our health.

## COMPUTING

### 'Online Safety Dilemmas'

Children regularly face decisions when they are online and while they may have the knowledge to make the correct choices, their behaviours don't always reflect this knowledge. This activity is aimed at putting children into scenarios they may encounter online (in an appropriate way), seeing how they would respond and discussing ways in which we can all remain safer online.

## HISTORY

### Civil Rights

This is a brilliant, brand new unit, designed to fit in with our ambition of having an knowledge and humanity rich curriculum. Our children will encounter different struggles for civil rights over the centuries, exploring themes such as slavery, apartheid, women's suffrage and racism. They will study the ways in which resistance to oppression has taken place, thinking in particularly about the role and impact of different forms of protest and non-violent resistance. We can't wait to get started on this one!



## GEOGRAPHY

### 'Are we damaging our world?'

The climate crisis is very much at the forefront of global news. This unit gives our children the opportunity to explore how humans are impacting the world and the problems the planet faces. This call for action will then extend to our own school community, with classes identifying how we as a school community can do more to promote sustainability and then leading projects to encourage all of us to do our bit!



## SPANISH

Our specialist Spanish teacher will be encouraging our pupils to use their conversational skills, teaching pupils about vocabulary and sentence structures relating to ordering food in cafes and restaurants.

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

## PE

### 'Striking and Fielding'

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 rounders.

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

Many thanks,

The Year 6 teaching team:

Mr. Osborne, Mr. Fox-Ford, Ms Roberts and Mr. O'Callaghan