



ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

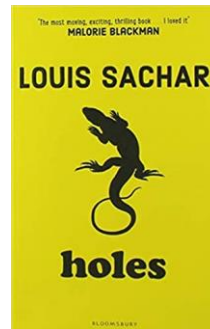
Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter: Spring term (first half)



We are pleased to be able to share with you the content of the curriculum that your children will receive until half term. We will send another newsletter informing you about the curriculum for Spring 2 later in the term. Art and DT are being taught after half term, so information about these will be included in the next newsletter. Please get in touch if you have any questions!

ENGLISH – reading

Our novel for this half term in class is the gripping 'Holes' by Louis Sachar



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.

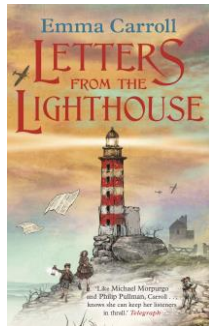
Read Theory continues to be our English homework and is a fantastic way of developing children's comprehension skills at their own level. Please contact school if you have lost your log in!

ENGLISH – writing

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

Writing a recount:

We will create our own recount of events, basing our work on the fabulous 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll, a mystery set in World War II .



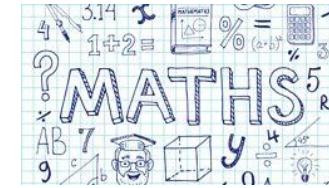
GRAMMAR:

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

- Adverbs
- Parentheses (brackets, dashes, commas)
- Possessive pronouns
- Relative pronouns
- Apostrophes for plural possession

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.



This half term we will:

- continue working with fractions, decimals and percentages, including: subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals; calculating percentages of amounts and converting fractions into decimals and percentages.
- continue with measures and conversions before going onto area, perimeter and properties of shapes next half term. We'll also be reviewing mental calculation strategies throughout the term.

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:

SOURCES:

Children will compare a wide variety of books and the purpose for which they were written. They will learn about the Bible as the story of God's love, told by the People of God.

UNITY:

Children will begin to understand what nourishes and what spoils friendship and unity. They will learn about how the Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in communion every day.

PSHE

Managing Challenge and Change

- Know about mental health, what it means and how we can take care of it
- Recognise how feelings and emotions are affected and can be managed at changing, challenging or difficult times
- Understand the impact of loss and bereavement and strategies for dealing with grief
- Develop strategies to manage feelings and common anxieties that are faced when starting KS3/moving to secondary school

Managing Sleep

- Understand the importance of a good night's sleep

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 **Rainbow Week**. Watch out for further details later this term!



This term, we will be:

Studying **ELECTRICITY**. We will recap over the basics of electrical circuits (last covered in Year 4) and will investigate how to make bulbs brighter, motors faster, explaining how and why we can alter the output of circuits.

MUSIC

'Music and me'

Music and Me focuses on inspirational women working in music.

Students will explore the concept of 'identity' – the various elements that shape us. In this unit, we start with gender, with reference to social and cultural differences.

They will be invited to try out different ways of making their own music, while exploring the work of some of the most influential women in music over the last 100 years.

HISTORY

'How did Liverpool survive World War II?'

This stage in our pupils' chronological journey through the school takes us to Liverpool in World War II. We've begun looking into the build up to WWII, including the influential leaders in Europe and the impact of evacuation. The children will learn about what life was like in Britain during the Second World War.

GEOGRAPHY

'What is it like in the Amazon?'

Pupils will explore the climate and industries that exist in the Amazon. In light of current world news, we will study the impact of both climate change and human exploitation of this area. Our pupils will be encouraged to consider ways in which we can make a positive change in the world to save this amazing region of the world!



SPANISH

Our specialist Spanish teacher will be encouraging our pupils to use their conversational skills, teaching the children how to talk about different localities and places within towns. We will also work on using and understanding directions in Spanish. Our number work continues, with pupils being taught Spanish numbers to 1,000.

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

PE

'Gymnastics'

In our Gymnastics unit, the children will use the equipment in the hall to explore a range of balances, jumps and how to travel in different ways.

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