**SS John & Monica Catholic Primary School**



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**Curriculum Information Letter – Spring 2020**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to welcome you back to school. We hope that you and your family have had an enjoyable break. In this letter you will find an overview of the work that your child will be completing during this term. Please find opportunities to support your child’s learning by doing additional research on any new topics.

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| **RE** | We will complete 4 units from our scheme **‘Learning and Growing as the People of God’** this term: Christmas, Jesus – Light of the World and Beloved Son, Lent and Holy Week.  Mass takes place on Thursday mornings and the first **Year 4 Mass** will take place on Thursday 13th February 2020. We hope that you will be able to join us in our celebrations. |
| **English** | **Reading:** This term, the children in Year 4 are reading **‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe’** by C. S. Lewis. In addition, the children will cover a range of texts (both fiction and non-fiction) for comprehension-based activities, so please do encourage your child to explore different genres in order to complement their learning.  **Writing:** The children will be taught a range of writing genres (fiction and non-fiction) based on our key texts. They will predominantly be focusing on narrative fiction, but other genres will include: play-scripts, recounts and poetry.  **Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling:**  Grammar, punctuation and spelling will be taught from the Programme of Study for Year 4. |
| **Maths** | In Year 4, we are learning all about the following:  **Number and Place Value**; **Addition** & **Subtraction**; **Multiplication** & **Division**; **Fractions (including Decimals)**; **Measurement**; **Geometry (Properties of Shape, Position and Direction)** and **Statistics**.  Please support your child with learning their **times tables** regularly as they will be tested regularly and this will aid much of their mathematical learning. |
| **Science** | This term, we are learning all about **states of matter**. |
| **Computing** | Throughout this term, we will be focusing on **coding and debugging** a series of **algorithms**. |
| **PE** | PE will occur every **Friday** in the afternoon. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit **(t-shirt, shorts &/or tracksuit, pumps for indoor PE and trainers for outdoor PE)**. Your child’s kit should be kept in school and washed every half-term. A letter should be provided if your child is unable to participate in PE for a medical reason. |
| **Music** | The children will learn to appraise, sing, improvise and compose with the well-known song Mamma Mia. |
| **French** | Children will develop their understanding of spoken French and will work towards using spoken language with confidence and accuracy. |
| **History & Geography** | This half-term, we will be looking at **volcanoes** and have received a homework research project based on this. Afterwards, our focus shifts from geography to history- **What was life like growing up in The Indus Valley?** |
| **Art & Design Technology** | Our artistic focus for this term is **Pop Art**, which will be taught cross-curricular. We will be looking at the works of collective artists, including **Andy Warhol** and **Roy Lichtenstein**. The children will be designing & creating a Narnia Lamp (linking into our class text, ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe). |

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| **Homework** | **Reading**: Each child will read on a daily basis in either whole class sessions, small groups or individually. Reading records will be checked regularly to ensure home reading is taking place. Please read with your child every day and sign their reading diary. Reading books must be brought to school every day. Your child has received specific reading activities in their reading diary- at least one activity per book please.  **Maths and English**: Homework will be set weekly on Fridays and marked the following Friday.  **Spelling**: Weekly spelling lists will be given out on Fridays and tested the following Friday.  **Times Tables**: All times tables up to 12 should be learnt by the end of Year 4. Further to this, children should know the inverse operations for each multiplication calculation. The children now have access to TT Rockstars app at home and in school.  **Other**: Mathletics and Reading Eggs homework will be set each week on a Friday and should be completed and returned the following Friday, unless requested for a specific date. |
| **Attendance and Punctuality** | This year we have a school target of **97%** for pupils in Rec– 6. It is very important that your child attends school every day. Pupils with an attendance level of less than 90% are regarded by the Government as having Persistent Absence and parents will be invited into school to discuss reasons for persistent absence. School starts **at 8.55 am-3.15pm.** If there is a cause for concern about your child’s punctuality you will be contacted to discuss this matter. |
| **Other Information** | Mass:Thursday 13th February 2020 Our Lady of Lourdes  Mass: Thursday 19th March 2020 4th Sunday of Lent  Visit to Birmingham Buddhist Centre: Wednesday 4th March 2020  Parents Consultation: Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th March 2020 |

If you have any questions please speak to me informally in the playground at the end of the day or make an appointment through the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss McEvoy and Mrs Ali