



Class 8 Newsletter

Summer 2024

[Click here to see the St. Joseph's School Curriculum](#)
[Click here to see our enrichment club offer](#)

Maths

We will start this term by recapping on place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, using different calculations, including the grid method and column method. We will then move on to fractions, money, decimals and percentages as well as refreshing our knowledge of time and statistics.

In Class 8, we are going to work very hard on our multiplication and division tables. Each week the children will have a times table to focus on and they are encouraged to practise these at home.

Times Table Rock Stars - TTRS

Your child has their own TTRS account which  can use to practise their times tables.

TTRS: [Times Tables Rock Stars \(ttrockstars.com\)](https://ttrockstars.com)

R.E

This term we will be studying the themes of New Life, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and other faiths. In Class 8, we will approach these themes through the topics:

Energy – gifts of the Holy Spirit

Islam

Choices – importance of examination of conscience

Special Places – Holy places for Jesus and the Christian community

The children will be encouraged to lead daily prayers and candle times. Please refer to the R.E. newsletter for more information on our class saint, St. Therese of Lisieux. During the year, we will be learning about how special St. Therese was and how we can try to follow in her example.

English

The text we will study in English is The Night Bus Hero. We will focus on the features of: story writing, character description, informal letters, diary writing, persuasive writing and a biography. We will then use this information to develop our own writing skills.

There will continue to be a strong emphasis on accuracy in punctuation and use of correct grammar in all written work, in addition to well-formed and accurate handwriting.

Spellings: Your child will be given weekly spellings which they can practise at home using the look, write check method. It is also useful to apply their spellings to sentences. Please encourage your children to learn their weekly spellings at home.

Reading – MyOn & Renaissance: Every child has a login for MyOn and Renaissance, where they have been allocated books that match their reading ability. Once they have completed a book, they can then complete the comprehension quiz and gain points! We use MyOn in addition to the reading books they are allocated in school.

MyOn: <https://www.myon.co.uk/login/index.html>

Renaissance: <https://ukhosted35.renlearn.co.uk/6709574/default.aspx>

History – Early Islamic Civilisation

This half term we will continue our history topic on Early Islamic Civilisation!

We will be learning about the significance and importance of Baghdad in helping to build and shape this early civilisation and examine how and why it developed into such a major world power. In addition to this, they will find out about the House of Wisdom and some of the influential people who worked and studied there.

The Learn It, Link It topic information sheet can be found in your child's homework book.

Science – Electricity

In this Science Topic, we will be learning about Electricity. We will aim to identify electrical and non-electrical appliances, understanding different components that make up a circuit and the testing of various materials to identify if they are electrical conductors or insulators.

The Learn It, Link It topic information sheet can be found in your child's homework book.

Geography – Biomes (Rainforests)

We will be learning about the various causes of pollution that is mainly driven by human activity within rainforests. We will be exploring different species of animals that live in the rainforests and how they adapt to the living conditions within the environments. As well as this, we will be studying the location of rainforests within our world map.

The Learn It, Link It topic information sheet can be found in your child's homework book.

Other Curriculum Areas:

PE: For PE, we will be focusing on Striking and Fielding. The children will have PE on a Monday with Miss Bright and on a Wednesday with Mrs Ellis.

Music: Our music lessons will be focused on listening to changes in pitch, tempo and use of dynamics linked to Samba. We will also be exploring the various percussion instruments used by Samba musicians to create their versatile music ensembles.

Computing: We will use Purple Mash for effective use of the internet through searching, as well as using the online application Microsoft Word.

MFL: We will have weekly Spanish lessons where we will learn places within a town and using the third person within forms of speaking and writing.

Art & DT: In Art, we will be studying the work of Edwina Bridgeman and focusing on her sculptures of the human form using clay and other mouldable materials.

Polite Reminders

- Long hair should be tied back and gel or other hair products are not permitted.
- Hair should not be dyed and extreme haircuts are not permitted.
- Earrings and jewellery should not be worn in school – a watch may be worn.
- Shoes should be sensible – black without detail or heels.
- Homework will be sent out on Monday and handed back by Friday.



Class 8 need to wear their PE kit on Mondays and Wednesdays – this should be a plain navy-blue tracksuit/shorts with a plain white t-shirt. Girls' hair should be tied up with bobbles and hair bands that match the school colours. Boys' hair should not be extremely short and hair gel/spray is not permitted.

For more information regarding school uniform and PE kits, please visit:

[School Uniform – St Joseph's Catholic Academy Norton \(bhcet.org.uk\)](http://bhcet.org.uk)

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office to arrange a telephone call, Mrs Ellis & Mrs Gibson Crone