



Autumn Term – Second Half
04.11.24 – 20.12.24

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter

Teachers: Mrs Westley, Miss Mabey and Miss Kinner

Teaching Assistants; Mrs Cox and Mrs Bigge

ISA's Miss Clack

Our Mission Statement

We would like to be recognised by the quality and depth of respect and love, which we show towards each other. Mutual respect and tolerance are central to our way of life at St. Mary's as we meet Jesus Christ in each other.

WELCOME: We would like to welcome you to our Curriculum Newsletter which will outline the main areas of learning for your children over the next part of the term. The newsletter is designed to give you clear information about the subject areas we will be covering and also to give you an indication of how you can support your child's learning. If you have any further queries please contact your child's teacher via the usual communication channels.

Important dates for the term:

Friday 8th November: school photos

Friday 15th November - Year 1 Mass/Liturgy You are welcome to attend but if you are bringing pre-school children please bring something quiet for them to do so that they do not distract Year 1 children from their Mass.

Monday 18th November and Thursday 21st November – Teacher/Parent meetings.

Saturday 30th November: Christmas fair- see your class rep to sign up for a shift

Thursday 5th December: KS1 Nativity (2.00pm)

Friday 13th December: Christmas jumper day

Wednesday 18th December: Christmas dinner day and home clothes

Friday 20th December: End of term Mass (9.10am) and school closes at 2.00pm

Monday 6th January: Inset Day

Tuesday 7th January return to school



Literacy

During our literacy lessons we will reinforce the use of phonics through our focused phonic sessions. Guided reading sessions will be used to develop phonics and comprehension skills. Guided reading is a group reading that helps to develop a range of reading skills. We will continue to follow the Little Wandle scheme.

Non – Fiction Text: *We will be doing some research and factual writing using information about animals.*

Fiction and Creative Writing: *Using animal themes we will be re-telling some favourite stories and writing our own.*

The children will also explore Christmas stories, which will form the basis of some of our creative writing.

We will continue to develop grammar skills: writing sentences, extending them with joining words and adjectives. We will learn about punctuation and when to use it. We will continue with daily handwriting practice to ensure a legible, fluent style.



Mathematics

During our maths lessons, we will aim to reinforce the children's understanding of the number system and the skills of written and mental calculations. We will use practical methods to develop their understanding wherever possible. We will also be using a range of mathematical vocabulary.

Number: *We will be learning their number bonds through addition and then subtraction. We will look at the relationships between numbers and how they can help us develop speedy recall. We will learn them through games and practical activities and then we will be writing number sentences and solving problems.*

Problem Solving: *The children will be expected to use and apply their number skills in different situations both practically with equipment and mentally.*



Religious Education

In our RE lessons this half term we will be exploring and reflecting on the life of Mary, The Annunciation and The Christmas Story. The children will reflect on how they can prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus and know the story of the birth of Jesus and Mary's role in it.

RSE

In our RSE lessons we will be thinking about our emotional wellbeing and feelings. Also we will begin to learn about the cycle of life.



Science

During science lessons we will continue our topic Animals, Including Humans. We will look at, and classify, animals according to type, what they eat and where they live. We will be comparing them to humans and looking at what they need to survive.

Other Curriculum Areas

P.E.: *We will continue to develop our fitness skills in our PE lessons with Miss Neville. We will also work on a unit of dance, developing movement skills and story telling through movement and music.*

History/Geography: *We will be asking where in the world different animals live. In history, we will think about our family history and will find out what things were different when our parents and grandparents were young.*

Art and Design: *For DT we will be learning about, designing and making free standing structures.*

Music: *The children will be focusing on singing and performing for our Christmas Concert.*



Homework and How You Can Help At Home

Reading is the most important homework in Year 1. We would like you to read with your child for at least ten minutes every day. Please spend some time asking questions and encourage your child to give their opinions about the text they have read. It is also very important for you to read to your child, modelling the use of punctuation and expression. Please make sure your child reads a range of fiction and non fiction. The library is a good way to extend your child's reading experiences. This will support the guided reading skills which is the teacher focus in the classroom.

Our homework schedule is to give out homework on **Thursday** which is to be returned by **Tuesday**. This will usually be Literacy and Numeracy, supporting the learning we have covered during the week. There may be occasional topic based homework during the term.

And Finally

Please ensure that all uniform is **clearly labelled**. Could we remind you that the children need plimsolls, shorts and a t-shirt for indoor PE. Trainers are required for outdoor PE along with a black or navy PE tracksuit without any logos. The children should always have a water bottle in school.

A gentle reminder that children should come back to school in their winter uniforms, **please** make sure **everything** is labelled. Half term would be a good time to ensure all PE kit fits – especially footwear.

Some useful websites; www.ictgames.co.uk , www.topmarks.co.uk , Purple Mash and the BBC websites are also very useful.

If you need to speak to us please write a note in the contact book and we can arrange a meeting. We are available at the gate for quick queries.

Thank you.

Mrs Westley, Miss Mabey and Miss Kinner

We trust that you have found this information useful and as always welcome your feedback.