



**Spring Term - First Half**

**05.01.23 – 09.02.23**

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

**Teachers:** Miss Costanzo and Miss Boyce

**TA:** Mrs Clarkson **ISA:** Mrs Wadley

### **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.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** The children settled back into school life well and had a fantastic term. We hope you had a fun and restful break. We are looking forward to a new year of learning with the children!

### **Dates for your Diary:**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January** – INSET day

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January** – School reopens for pupils

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January-** Beginning of term mass

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January-** Year 4 trip to Sikh Gurdwara In Croydon

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January-** Book looks for parents

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January-** CAFOD workshop

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February** - Parents' Evening bookings open at 8pm

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Safer Internet Day

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February-** INSET day



## Religious Education

In our R.E. lessons we will be focusing on 'Jesus the Teacher' and looking closer at the Bible stories where Jesus passes his teaching to us. We will look at examples of how Jesus travelled around spreading the word of God and discuss how Jesus came to show us the way to live.



## Literacy

Our literacy topic will be based on the book 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' by Andy Shepherd and the children will produce both fiction and non-fiction written pieces of work.

**Reading:** Comprehension exercises will continue to develop comprehension skills. We would encourage you to continue to listen to your child read and discuss what has been read on a daily basis.

**Spellings:** This half term we will be using the same spelling words but we will give the children a larger number of words to practise each week. A number of those words will then be picked for the spelling test each Monday.

**Handwriting:** Children will continue to develop their penmanship by following the Kingston Cursive Handwriting Programme.

**Grammar:** Specific stand-alone grammar lessons continue to form part of our Literacy timetable to develop understanding of varied sentence structure, punctuation and text development.

**Poetry:** In our poetry lessons we will be focusing on works based on imagery and developing our understanding of poetic devices such as similes, adjectives and adverbs.

**Fiction and Creative Writing:** We will be developing our creative writing with a focus on narrative texts.



## Mathematics

During our maths lessons we will continue to reinforce children's understanding of the number system and the skills of written and mental calculations.

**Number and place value:** children will continue to further their understanding of the number system including negative numbers and place value into four digits. We will also continue to develop our multiplication and division skills.

**Geometry and measures:** describing position of a shape on a 2-D grid using coordinates in the first quadrant.

**Fractions and decimals:** recognise tenths and hundredths; identify equivalent fractions; add and subtract fractions with common denominators; round decimals to whole numbers; solve money problems.

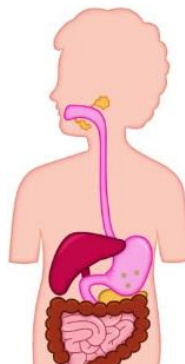
**Statistics:** children will develop their use of pictograms, bar charts and line graphs.

**Mental Mathematics:** There will be regular Mental Maths Assessments which will cover all aspects of the curriculum and are modelled on the end of Key Stage 2 Assessments.

**Multiplication Tables Check Preparation:** There will be regular opportunities for children to develop their knowledge and speed so that they are ready for the new statutory assessment in the summer term. Please visit <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> so that you can conduct practise tests with your child at home.

## Science

This half term this children will be studying the topic of 'Animals, including Humans' and will be learning about the digestive system. This will include; being able to identify and describe the different parts of our digestive system, experiments to show how our digestive processes work and learning all about the functions of our teeth and how to keep them healthy.



## Other Curriculum Areas

**PE:** PE kits should come into school on a Monday and be taken home on a Friday for washing. PE lessons will normally be on Mondays and Wednesdays. We will be focusing on cross country and hockey this half term. We would encourage children to wear a warm tracksuit during our PE lessons.

**History:** We will be studying the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. Children will learn about the impact and influence of Vikings and Anglo-Saxons on our lives today e.g. place and road names, people's names and our identity. We will aim to have a Viking Day for the children at some point during this half term.

**Computing:** Children will be using Purple Mash to complete all computing lessons going forward, therefore they must know their login and be able to log in independently. We will be looking at the structure of the coding language of Logo and will learn how to input simple instructions.

**French:** We will be developing our story telling skills.

### Useful information

- Behaviour rewards: In Year 4, we praise children who display positive learning behaviours and they are rewarded with green ticks. If a child receives three green ticks, they will receive a raffle ticket which goes towards a prize. If a child is displaying negative behaviours, they will be given a verbal warning and this is followed by a red cross if the behaviour continues. When a child receives three red crosses, they will be given a time out in the other class to reflect and reset. In addition, every week we work towards one of our Core Values and children receive a certificate and recognition in our special assembly on a Friday.
- Please follow the link to see our curriculum at a glance: <https://www.st-marys-catholic.bromley.sch.uk/curriculum/national-curriculum-at-a-glance>
- Timetable – a copy of our usual timetable can be found below. Please bear in mind the timetable has to be flexible to account for everyday school events, for example: school trips, special celebration days, visitors, special group work.

Year 4	8.40 – 8.50	8.55 - 10.10			10.35 – 11.30	11.30 – 12.30		1.25 – 2.10	2.10 – 2.45	2.55 – 3.10	After School
Monday	Early work & register	Maths		B	English	PE	L	1.25 Guided Reading	1.45 - 2.55 Humanities	Assembly	Staff Meeting
Tuesday	Early work & register	8.50 – 9.00 Reading Activities	9.00 English	R	Maths	RE	U	Computing / Guided Reading		Class Assembly	
Wednesday	Early work & register	8.55 - 9.20 KS2 Hymn Practice	9.20 Maths	E	Music	PE	N	1.25 - 2.20 English	2.20 - 3.10 RSE		
Thursday	Early work & register	8.55 - 9.15 Thursday thought	9.15 English	A	Maths	RE	C	Science			
Friday	Early work & register	Maths		K	English	12:00-12:30 French Or Guided Reading	H	1.25 Guided Reading or French	1.45 - 2.55 Art/DT	Assembly	

## **Lastly**

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled as the cloakrooms are limited in space and quickly fill up with un-identifiable clothing.

**Reminder about homework:** homework will be handed out on Thursday and due back in by the following Tuesday. We will also be checking Reading Journals on Thursdays, though should come into school each day and go home each night as they need them for their Guided Reading sessions and to complete reading activities at home. Each child should aim to do at least one reading activity at home per week in their journal, even if this is simply recording what they have read.

Some useful websites: [www.ictgames.co.uk](http://www.ictgames.co.uk) , [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) , <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>, [www.nrichmaths.org](http://www.nrichmaths.org) and the bbc learning websites.

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As you are aware, the children will be sitting a national multiplication check during the Summer Term. We would really appreciate your help with supporting your child to learn their timestables at home. They will need to be able to rapidly recall the multiplication facts, so speed is key!

Thank you for your continuing support.

The Year 4 Team