



Spring Term - First Half

06.01.25 – 13.02.25

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Teachers: Mr McNicholas, Miss Walton & Mrs Slade

TA: Mrs Clarkson & Miss Peto

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!

We hope you had a fun and restful break. We are looking forward to a new year of learning with the children!

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 year. 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.

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 6th January – Inset Day – children not in school

Tuesday 7th January – School reopens for pupils

Beginning of term Mass - Friday 10th January

Wednesday 5th February & Thursday 6th February – Book looks

Friday 14th February – Inset Day – children not in school



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.

RSE

We will be studying the module 'Created to love others'. Created to Love Others explores the individual's relationship with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love, this module explores how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe both online and in our daily lives.



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 purple mash scheme for spellings, where the children will receive spellings in their yellow spelling books ready for a test the following Friday.

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. Finding the perimeter of a shape.

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.

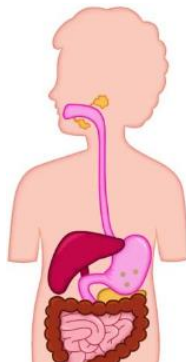
Statistics: children will develop their use of pictograms, bar charts and line graphs.

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 Tuesday and Thursday. We will be focusing on cross country and gymnastics 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.

Art: We will be developing the children's sketching techniques and using different mediums.

Useful information

Behaviour rewards: In Year 4, we praise children who display positive learning behaviours in a variety of ways.

4LM 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 two red crosses, they will be given a time out in the other class to reflect and reset.

4KW are rewarded with marbles. They can earn marbles as a whole class or as an individual for the class. Once we fill our jar, we will have a treat. This treat will be chosen from a list that we put together as a class. If there are times when the class is not displaying the behaviour expected of them at St Mary's, they may lose marbles from the jar. We also have a trophy that the children can earn as a table, which is regularly moved around the classroom. As well as this, individual stickers and positive praise are given to children.

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.

1. 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>
2. 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 2024-25	8:40 - 8:50	8:50 - 9:00	9:00 – 9:25	9:25 – 10:10		10.30 – 11:30	11:30 – 12:30		1:25 – 2:10	2:10 – 2:45	2:45 – 3:05	After School
Monday			Maths		B	English	History / Geography	L	RE	Computing	Whole School assembly	
Tuesday			Class liturgy	RSE	R	Maths	Comprehension	U	Science			
Wednesday Yr 4 PPA am (Darren & PPA Co. Music)			Wednesday Word	Maths	E	PPA	PPA	N	English	RE		
Thursday			KS2 Hymn Practice	Maths	A	English	RE	C	Art / D&T			
Friday			English		K	Spelling	Maths	Change for PE	French	PE	Celebration Assembly	
						Maths	Spelling		Change for PE	PE		French

Pencil Case Equipment

Please ensure your child has a fully-equipped pencil case, including:

- Hand writing pen or fountain pen (including spare cartridges)
- Pencils / leads for mechanical pencils
- Sharpener
- Eraser
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Protractor
- Rigid ruler, 30cm length
- Whiteboard pen
- Green fineliner (not biro) for editing

We are unable to provide these for the children.

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 throughout the term to ensure they are using them, 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 , www.topmarks.co.uk , <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>, www.nrichmaths.org and the bbc learning websites.

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

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 continued support.

The Year 4 Team