



Spring Term – 1<sup>st</sup> Half

03.01.2023-10.02.2023

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

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## 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 to our Curriculum Newsletter which will outline the main areas of learning for your children over the next part of the term.

We've enjoyed a great start to the year 5 last term, with our focus on The Victorians and finishing our work on Shaun Tan's *The Arrival*. We have been especially impressed with how engaged the children have been and they have all produced some superb pieces of creative work since starting Year 5 in September.

## Dates for the diary:

Wednesday 4th January: School resumes for pupils

Friday 6th January: whole school Mass

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January: Young Voices

Wednesday 18th January and Thursday 19th January: Book looks

Wednesday 8th February: World War II evacuee experience at the Museum of Kent Life

Thursday 9th February: Dare To Be Different day

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February: Inset day



## English

**Reading:** Regular comprehension exercises will continue to develop children's reading fluency and their understanding and appreciation of what they read. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of children reading at home from a wide range of both fiction and non-fiction. Children who read widely have many more ideas and much more varied vocabulary to use in their writing.

**Spellings:** To help the children in their writing, there will be weekly spelling tests. Spellings will be given out on Friday to be tested the following Friday.

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

**Grammar:** Grammar will be embedded throughout all lessons across the range of subjects within our curriculum. If, as part of our weekly teaching, a specific area of grammar or punctuation needs to be focused upon as a class then this may be addressed in an individual session, if appropriate.

**Non – Fiction Text:** Newspaper articles and factual writing based on our topics.

**Fiction and Creative Writing:** We are moving on to our study of traditional tales.

Literacy homework will be issued every week. Please check your child's work and sign the diary at the back of the book.



## Religious Education

Our R.E. topic for this half-term is *Inspirational People*. The children will be studying how so many individuals can inspire others and how we can be followers of Jesus. We will be learning about the lives of St. Josephine Bakhita, St. Edith Stein and other saints and examining the lessons we can learn from them and from the Beatitudes.

This year we will also be looking closer to home for those local and national heroes who have inspired us all during the pandemic. If you have any suggestions we would welcome your input and suggestions.

## RSE

We will be starting our new topics this half term looking at lifecycles and growing up. We will explore how a baby grows in the womb, building and developing the teaching at Lower Key Stage Two. We will also be learning about the nature and role of menstruation in the fertility cycle, and that fertility is involved in the start of life



## 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:** Children will continue to further their understanding of the number system including place value to 1,000,000 and to 3 decimal places. We will be continuing to develop formal written calculations using a range of different strategies. Following on from our work on long multiplication using grid and column method, we will be dividing using the bus stop method along with other long division methods.

**Fractions:** Our main focus for the first half of term will be multiplying fractions and calculating fractions of amounts.

**Additive, multiplicative and geometric reasoning:** Children will continue to develop their skills of selecting the appropriate mathematical skill and knowledge to solve every day, multi-step word problems and this discipline threads through all areas of the curriculum.

It is clear that children are still not secure in their multiplication knowledge and it's vitally important considering all the work we are completing during this half term requires application of this knowledge.

Please ensure your children are continuing to practise their multiplication facts up to 12x12 and related division facts.



## Science

Our science topic for this half-term is ***Earth and Space***. We will be investigating the relationship between the Earth, Sun and Moon and the causes of night and day and the seasons.

During this unit of work, children will:

- describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the sun in the solar system
- describe the movement of the moon relative to the Earth
- describe the sun, Earth and moon as approximately spherical bodies
- use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky

## Other Curriculum Areas

**PE:** Children will be learning about the comparisons between netball and basketball.

**Humanities:** We will be studying the development of Crystal Palace as a local area. During this unit of work, we will be learning about the reason for the building of the Palace and how it was moved to Upper Sydenham, the impact it had on our locality (developing comparative skills with a variety of maps) and the events which led to its destruction in 1936. In Geography, we will be aligning with our work on *The Crystal Palace* by looking at our map skills, using ordinance survey maps to describe locations and creating maps to represent differing environments.

**Art and Design:** We will begin to study of *The Great Wave of Kanaguwa* by Hokusai.

**French:** This half-term's topic: *Les Planètes* – linking with Science. We will learn the names of the planets in French and how to describe their appearance and location in the solar system.

**Computing:** Continuing becoming used to the introduction of Purple Mash to our Primary Computing Curriculum. This half term we will be coding; specifically understanding how functions work in code.

## Useful information

- Behaviour rewards: Every week we work towards one of our Core Values and children receive a certificate and recognition in our assembly on a Friday. In Year 5, we still have in-class rewards, for example stickers for exceptional work and in addition to this, you may receive a postcard from the year 5 team for outstanding work.

If a child displays negative behaviour, they will be given a verbal warning. If the child continues to disrupt the teaching of the lesson then their name will be placed on the board, which will act as a visual reminder to the child and also as a deterrent to the rest of the class. If this disruption continues, a time out will be given in the opposite Year 5 class.

### A fresh start

To ensure that every pupil is motivated to improve their behaviour, the sanctions, which they may have received on a given day, will not continue into the next. This will allow every individual to have a fresh start each day.

- Curriculum: all curriculum information can be found on our website, for example see the links below

[Curriculum at a glance](#)

- [English curriculum at a glance \(whole school view\)](#)
- [Maths curriculum at a glance \(whole school view\)](#)

- 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. When there are any changes, the children are informed and in Year 5 we begin to actively encourage this independence in preparation for Year 6 and beyond. However, this will give you a broad idea of how we structure our week:

Year 5 - 2022 Term 1	8.40 – 8.50	9.00 – 9.25	9.25 – 10.10		10.35 – 11.30	11.30 – 12.30		1.25 – 2.05	2.05 – 2.40	2.45 – 3.05	After School
Monday	Early Morning Work	Maths		B	English	Computing	L	PE	SPaG	Assembly	
Tuesday	Early Morning Work	8.50 – 9.00 Class Assembly	Maths	R	English	Humanities	U	Guided Reading	ART / D&T		
Wednesday	Early Morning Work	8.55 - 9.20 KS2 Hymn Practice	RSE	E	Maths	English	N	PE / Music			
Thursday	Early Morning Work	8.55 - 9.15 Thursday Thought	Mental Maths	A	English	RE Wellbeing / BAME	C	Guided Reading	Science		
Friday	Early Morning Work	French Spellings		K	Maths	English	H	Handwriting (New spellings)	RE	Assembly	

**Finally .....**

**Uniform and Equipment:** Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled. We would appreciate it if children could return to school with a glue stick that is clearly labelled.

The full St. Mary's PE kit, including socks, is vital and should be in school each day – as we enter the coldest part of the year plain black or navy track suits are also permitted.

[\*\*A PDF link to our uniform policy\*\*](#)

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

The Year 5 Team.