



Spring Term – 1st Half

7.1.2025-13.2.2025

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Teachers: Miss Harrison, Mr Ringwood, Mrs Slade

TA: Mrs Azeez **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.

It has been a busy Autumn term. We have been so proud of year 6 especially the way in which they have taken on responsibility around the school. Their contribution to the Carol Concert was exemplary. Lots of hard work ahead of us in the Spring term – we are sure it will be most successful!

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 6th January : INSET day – children not in school

Friday 10th January: Whole-school Mass

Wednesday 15th January: Young Shakespeare Company in school

Thursday 16th January: Book Looks 3.30-4pm

Friday 17th January: Book Looks 8.15-8.30am

Friday 24th January: Year 6 Mass at St Edmund's 10am

Friday 14th February: INSET day – children not in school



Our topic will be 'Jesus, the Bread of Life'. We will be reflecting on the story the Passover and developing a deeper understanding of the Penitential Rite, the Offertory, Consecration and Holy Communion. We will be joining the congregation at St Edmund's for 10am Mass at the end of January. Our work on other faiths this half term will focus on Sikhism.

Relationships Education (RSE)

Our RSE lessons this term will focus on:

- emotional wellbeing – body image and emotional changes
- menstruation
- making babies



Literacy

Writing Focus: this half term our written work will continue to be based around the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. Then our next key theme is 'Detecting and Solving' and our work will include stories from the Sherlock Holmes novels of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Reading: weekly comprehension exercises and reading sessions will continue to develop comprehension skills. Children also have their Reading Journals to continue.

Spellings: as part of the preparation of children for Key Stage 2 SATs there will continue to be regular spelling tests. Spelling rules rather than word lists are sometimes given out to help the children apply their spellings in their written work.

Handwriting: we will continue to practise handwriting skills by following the Kingston Cursive Handwriting Programme; where necessary additional practice may be required at home.

Grammar: grammar is a key requirement for all primary age children and therefore is threaded throughout all lessons.

Homework: this is set on Tuesday and should be submitted on Thursday.

Science – Light and Electricity

During our study of this topic the children will be learning about light sources, how light travels and how light is reflected. We will be building periscopes. We will also be investigating reasons for variations in components of an electrical circuit.



Mathematics

Fractions, decimals and percentages: children will be ordering, simplifying and exploring the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.

Maths Homework: this set on Tuesday and should be submitted on Thursday.

Help at home: we would ask that you continue to help your child practise their multiplication tables at home so that they have rapid recall – this is not only up to 12 x 12 but includes multiples of 15 and 25, in line with the national curriculum.

Assessment papers will be sent home for you to look at together once we have been through these in class.

Other Curriculum Areas

P.E.: St. Mary's PE kit (fully named) is vital and should be in school each day. If your child is chosen for a school team and borrows a school kit, please ensure your child returns the washed kit within two days.

Geography: we will be looking at trade and economic links in Geography.

D.T: this half term our topic is Electrical Systems, Programming & Control.

Computing: our focus is a valuable life-skill – we will be using spreadsheets to investigate probability and to calculate the discount in a sale.

French: we are fortunate to have Madame Batten for our weekly lessons. This half-term's topic: *Le passé et the present* (past and present tenses of verbs).

And finally:

Please could pencil cases be re-stocked and fully-equipped for the New Year. These should include: hand writing pen or fountain pen (including spare cartridges), pencils, sharpener, eraser, glue stick, protractor, ruler, whiteboard pen and green editing pen. Thank you!

If your child has any secondary school visits or tests, or any music exams, please remember to notify the school beforehand. The absence has to be unauthorised if we are not notified.

We trust you find this information useful. Thank you from the Year 6 Team.