



Summer Term 2024

Year 6 Newsletter

Welcome back

We hope you have all had a lovely Easter break. We are all really looking forward to a new term full of learning and fun. We cannot believe that this is the children's final term at St. Paul's but we know they are all going to continue to thrive as they embark on their new journey at secondary school. It is going to be a busy term with the children sitting their SATs tests on Monday 13th May- Thursday 16th May, preparing for secondary school and going to visit their new schools during transition days. The children have worked so hard and we are very proud of each and every one of them and we feel very lucky to have taught such an amazing group of individuals.

Mrs. Wilson and Miss Wood

Religious Education

We continue to follow the RE scheme, 'Come and See'. The three topics that the children will be learning about this term are:

- Witnesses

- Islam

- Healing

- Common Good

A copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet with extra information has been sent home.

During our Islam World Faith week, we will learn about the importance of belonging and values for Muslims



This term much of our English work will be based around our class texts "The Final Year" by Matt Goodfellow and "The Boy At The Back of the Class" by Onjali Q. Raúf. We will also explore some of Shakespeare's work particularly the comedy 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Through our exploration of these texts and through links to our work in other subject areas the children will have the opportunity to write letters, non-chronological reports, persuasive texts and short narratives to name but a few. In reading, we will explore the meaning of words in context, draw inferences and justify these with evidence from the text, make predictions, summarise and identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will continue to be a focus in all English lessons and discrete lessons will also take place. This half term we will be continuing our work on the Upper Key Stage 2 spelling list, focusing on different rules and strategies for spelling unknown words.

The development of our reading skills will be at the core of all lessons, not just in English, as we aim to develop the children's vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising skills. Daily reading is still very important, and we encourage the children to try to read at home for at least ten minutes each school day. Reading Plus is an excellent online resource that will support your child in developing their reading comprehension skills and this is something the children should be using as part of their weekly homework.



In Mathematics, the children will continue to develop and build upon their skills that have been taught throughout Key Stage 2. We start by revising some of the concepts that we have previously taught, where we will be deepening our understanding of ratio and proportion, geometry, statistics and strengthen our knowledge of fractions, decimals, and percentages. Following this we will be exploring different structures used in Mathematics to support calculation and we will look at solving problems with two unknowns. There will be an increased emphasis on application and reasoning and all children will access this at a level designed to make them ask relevant questions and solve the problem with logic and clear direction. The children will also continue to focus on the development of their arithmetic skills, and we will be having short, focused maths fluency lessons to aid accuracy and speed of number facts, concepts and procedures. As always children are encouraged to practice their times tables and other skills such as telling the time at home. Pupils should be accessing Times Table Rockstars at home on a weekly basis as part of their homework.

Mental Health and Well-Being

At St. Paul's we believe Mental Health and Wellbeing is how we feel, think and act. It determines how we handle stress, manage relationships and make choices. It is important to all of us, at every stage of our lives from childhood through to adulthood. This is why we place a huge emphasis on this in all of our lessons and take care to teach aspects of mental health and well-being through our PSHE curriculum. Our priority is to ensure children feel safe and secure in school and feel confident in expressing and understanding their feelings and emotions. This term year 6 will continue to focus on positive behaviours including resilience, growth mindset and kindness.

PE

Our PE sessions will continue to be taught by Mrs Tattersdill on a Wednesday morning. The children should come to school wearing their PE kit on a Wednesday. Our 'My Personal Best' word is self-discipline. The children will be working on their athletic skills in the first half term and will be focusing on net and wall games and will take part in some outdoor adventurous activities.

Computing

We be using the Purple Mash scheme for computing and in this term the children will be learning about networks, understanding quizzes, binary and spreadsheets. The children will learn about different network types, the work of Tim Berners-Lee, major changes in technology during the last 20 years, create their own online quiz and understand the binary format.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Alongside our focus on mental health and wellbeing we will be looking at healthy lifestyles, setting aspirational but achievable goals and preparing for life after primary school.

French

We will continue to have a weekly French lesson with Madame Sonley from Lingotots, where the children will be learning to speak about routines and creating their own short texts about routines.

Science

This half-term the children will learn more about 'Light'. Here we will explore how light travels, investigate the relationship between light sources, objects and shadows. Later in the term the children will be learning more about 'Living things and their habitats.' Here the children will build on their learning about grouping living things by looking at the classification system in more detail. They will be introduced to the idea that broad groupings, such as micro-organisms, plants and animals can be subdivided. They will also explore the significance of scientists such as Carl Linnaeus.

Geography

In geography the children will explore settlements. They will discover features of different settlements, local land use and changes to land use over time and look at potential cities of the future. Later in the term the children will explore climate change. Here they'll learn about the causes of climate change, the greenhouse effect, look at how animals are impacted by climate change and look at the work of Greta Thunberg.

Art and Design

In art and design this term the children will explore textiles and create their own recycled fashion item. They will use the inspiration from our work surrounding 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' to create paintings using acrylic paint and watercolours.

Music

Mrs Taylor from the Tees Valley Music Service will continue to teach the children music this term where they will learn about pentatonic tonality, describe music as legato (smooth) or staccato (detached).

Homework

We will continue to use our homework books with weekly English and Maths tasks. This will be set on a Wednesday and is to be handed in before the following Tuesday. If your child is struggling with an aspect of the homework please ask them to speak to me about this before the due date so that I am able to review it with them. Please continue to encourage your child to read daily for at least ten minutes and note this in their reading record. Please also encourage the use of Times Tables Rockstars and Reading Plus as this is part of their weekly homework and these learning apps have proven to support the development of key areas of the curriculum. Thank you for your continued support.