

## Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 - Autumn 2 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the autumn half term break, I hope that you have had an enjoyable time. I have enjoyed getting to know you over the last half term and much appreciate the continued support that has been provided at home. I am really looking forward to this half term and have some engaging and interesting lessons planned all around the theme of habitats both here in Britain and across the world. I hope you find interest in the information provided about what we will be covering in each subject this half term, if you wish to know more, please visit the DfE website for further information. Kind regards, Mrs Foy.

### Catholic life of the school

On a Monday afternoon, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. Each Thursday at 9am, we hold a Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class with parents.

The children will be attending a variety of whole school masses, both in the Church and also class Masses in school.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

In class the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

During the season of Advent, the children will have the opportunity to give Mary and Joseph a place to stay for the night, with the Travelling Nativity. It will give families a chance to reflect together on the meaning of Christmas and to enjoy some activities together.

### Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we will continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes. Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Children will be encouraged to run the daily mile. We will train each day until we are fit enough to run the mile. Running each day will mean your child will achieve a 100 mile certificate by next July.

Healthy snack days will continue to be Monday to Friday and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes.

### Information and dates to remember:

Mon 4 Nov - School re-opens at 8.45am.

Mon 11 Nov - Anti-bullying Week

Thurs 14 Nov - Year 2 & 5 Class Mass, 9.30am

Mon 18 Nov - Operation Christmas Child boxes in school

Thurs 21. Nov - Year 4 & 3 Class Mass, 9.30am

Sun 1 Dec - School Christmas Fair

WC 2 Dec - Year 5 Production

Tues 10 Dec 9.30am KS1 Christmas Production

2pm KS2 Christmas Production

Wed 11 Dec 2pm KS1 Christmas Production

6pm KS2 Christmas Production

Wed 18 Dec - Christmas lunch for Infants / Juniors

Fri 20 Dec - School closes for Christmas holidays at 3.30pm.

### Homework

**Literacy homework:** will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

**Spellings:** we will continue to learn our spellings through the week which will be handed out every Tuesday and can be found in the SPaG folders.

**Maths homework:** will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

**Reading:** Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

### Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day.

Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the Junior gate and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

**Year 4****General Class  
Information****Big Maths**

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week. We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables and be rewarding with bronze, silver and gold stickers on our tables charts. Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

*Remember we are going for green!*

**Reading**

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reader for this half term is 'James and the Giant Peach' by Roald Dahl.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked every day and home reading is acknowledged with positive comments and stickers.

We have purchased a lot of new reading resources throughout the school, in particular the banded home readers. I will be checking weekly and guiding your child's choice of reading book and changing them as necessary.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school, please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

**The school continues to run an early doors reading club (£2)  
8am - 8:45am each morning. Open to all!**

**Grammar Hammer**

The children will continue to complete a 'Grammar Hammer' assessment every two weeks and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their SPAG folders (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will be focusing on one grammar aspect each week.

Please encourage your child to use their folders to practise the areas of Grammar at every opportunity.



**RE - Autumn 2 term topics****Baptism/Confirmation – belonging: Called**

The children will explore the response to being chosen and understand that Confirmation is a call to witness.

**Advent/Christmas- Loving: Gift**

The children will explore the gift of love and friendship and understand that Advent and Christmas are the Church's seasons of preparing to receive God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus.

For more information, please see the RE newsletter on the school website.

**English****Reading**

- The children will be reading a range of material throughout the half term, including newspapers, textbooks, webpages and stories. The focus will be around stories from other cultures, poetry and informative texts.
- We will be continuing to read regularly in groups with a guided focus.

**Writing**

- We will be working on play scripts; looking at how they work, the different features and creating our own.
- We will be looking at the features of balanced argument and how we can create our own in our writing.
- We will become familiar with a variety of poems and begin to critic them.
- We will also write our own poems that create images in our head.

**Grammar and Punctuation**

- Use exciting conjunctions to link two simple sentences.
- Start to use subordinate clauses in our writing.
- Using the correct form to indicate tense,

**Spelling.**

-To learn spelling lists in SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar) file and use dictionaries to find meanings.

Children will be given spelling lists to learn at home in their SPAG folders. They will learn to spell these at school, find meanings using a dictionary and other words with similar spelling patterns. Spellings will be tested on a Monday afternoon and new spellings given on Tuesday.

**Science****Animals, including humans**

We continue our focus on biology but move towards animal's habitats, food chains and food webs. We will be looking at a variety of habitats and using skills such as:

- Asking relevant questions and creating hypothesis.
- Setting up simple enquiries, measuring them accurately and recording their findings.
- Identify similarities and differences, draw conclusions and report their findings.

**Mathematics****Number - Number and Place Value**

- Count on and back in steps of 0.1 from numbers with 2 decimal places.

**Addition and Subtraction**

- To add several small numbers together.
- Revise mental addition and subtraction.
- Subtract three-digit numbers using the counting up method.
- Use the appropriate written method for two, three and four-digit addition.
- Solve problems relating to addition and subtraction.

**Multiplication and Division**

- Use short multiplication methods, to multiply 2-digit numbers by two-digit numbers.
- Find prime numbers less than 50.
- Answer problem solving questions related to multiplication and division.
- Use a written method to divide numbers above the times tables.
- Use multiplication to check division and simplify fractions.
- Recall multiplication facts for x2, x3, x4, x5 and x10.

**Fractions**

- Recognise equivalent fractions and be able to simplify them.
- Introduce mixed numbers, turn improper fractions into mixed numbers.
- Add fractions with related denominators.
- Subtract fractions with related denominators.

**Shape**

- Use a compass to draw circles to a given radius.
- Draw different polygons; identify their properties
- Study different triangles and identify their properties.
- Study different 3-D shapes and identify their properties.
- Identify and sort 3-D shapes according to their properties.

**PE - Agility, Balance and Swimming**

Children will be working on the key aspects of agility, balance and Swimming within PE. Demonstrating key skills such as:

- Changing direction, speed, and level - refine movements into sequences - plan, perform and repeat sequences - travelling in a variety of ways.

- Swim between 25-50m - Use more than one stroke - Coordinate leg and arm movements.

Swimming is every Thursday so please ensure swimming costumes / shorts, towels, and goggles (if a form has been returned) are present. Please ensure PE kits are in school every day and are clearly labelled.

**Art**

**Drawing/Painting**

The children will be using the theme of habitats especially those by a river to create a variety of artistic sculptures and pictures. They will use techniques such as:

Using brush techniques - Mixing Colours - Selecting and arranging materials - including textures for feeling and mood - use shading and layers.

**PSHE**

The children will learn about healthy lifestyles informing them about what they eat and the benefits that staying active can have on their lives.

They will also spend time learning about body awareness, helping them to understand more about themselves and other people.

**Topic Title**

**Habitats: Home  
or Away**

**Computing**

**Programming:**

This half term the children will focus on creating a programme which must contain objects, actions, outcomes, control and events. They will look to link it with our topic on habitats.

**History**  
**Ancient Greeks**

We will be focusing on the ancient Greeks, when they rose to power and how this influenced not only the ancient world but us today. To do this we will be done using a variety of skills including:

- Investigative skills such as: asking questions, using a variety of sources and selecting which are appropriate, explaining why some historical recounts can differ.
- Chronological skills such as: using timelines, using dates with accuracy and understanding changes over time.

**Music**

**Performing:** The children will sing songs from memory with accurate pitch. They can then improvise using repeated patterns and perform a simple part rhythmically.

The children will be learning songs for the Christmas play and performing to an audience. This will include whole class harmonisation.