

Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 2019/2020 - Spring 1 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays. I hope that you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and would like to wish you a very happy new year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the kind gifts, cards, and messages. I was once again overwhelmed by your generosity. For this half term I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects. If you wish to know more, visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me. Kind regards, Mrs Foy.

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday morning, 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.

In class the children will continue to plan and lead collective worship on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The children will have a Key Stage Assembly on Wednesday morning and be attending a variety of whole school masses, in Church or 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.

During this term the children will be involved in charity works, particularly during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the 'Good Shepherd Appeal' for Nugent Care and also be raising funds for 'Mission Together' which supports international charity work, with our little red 'Missio' boxes.

The children will also have the opportunity to take home a class cream prayer bag, which will change to a purple prayer bag, during Lent, to share with their family.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we encourage the children to be active at playtimes and improve their fitness by completing the 'Daily Mile'. This is done from a walking pace through to a jogging/running pace, as each child increases in speed and ability.

Children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day; so 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.

A healthy snack may be given to the children to eat during morning playtime.

Information and dates to remember:

January:

Mon 6 - Start of the Spring Term for children
Tues 14 - SATs meeting for Year 2 and Year 6 parents at 3.40pm & 5pm

February:

Mon 10 - Parents' evening 4.30-7pm
Tues 11 - Parents' evening 3.30-6pm (school closes at 3pm)
Fri 14 - School closes for half term at 3.30pm.

Homework information

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

- **Spellings** will be given out on a Tuesday and tested the Friday, in addition to a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work and working in their word books.

- **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 will be "The lion the witch and the wardrobe".

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 different grammar aspects each week.

The children will also be focusing on incorporating their grammar knowledge within their own writing and demonstrating good use of spelling knowledge. Continual writing assessments will focus upon: neat joined handwriting, grammar within writing, spellings and knowledge of different writing genres.

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



RE - Spring term topics

Community

The children will learn about the communities that they belong to, including and focusing on the parish community. They will look at the different roles within St Oswald's Parish and how it benefits the wider community of Padgate.

Giving and Receiving

This topic will allow the children to explore how God is a God that loves to give gifts, and how these gifts can be received.

Sacramental Preparation will continue this term for the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, please refer to the list of dates sent out for preparation Masses.

Please read the RE newsletter on the school website, to find out more information.

Science-States of Matter

- Identify and explain the properties of solids, liquids and gases.
- Compare and group together different liquids, solids and gases.
- Investigate and explain what can cause a material to change state.
- Predict and explore the effect of a material's state over time.
- Record the outcomes of scientific experiments in a clear and informative way.
- Work scientifically by investigating the gases that are all around us and study the importance that they have in our lives.
- Make links with the water cycle and how different materials can change states.

English

Reading

- Use dictionaries to check the meaning and spelling of words.
- Continue to listen to and discuss a range of fiction, non-fiction and reference books.
- Read, listen to and discuss a range of traditional poetry.
- Discuss words, phrases and uses of grammar that capture the reader's interest and imagination.
- Read a variety texts each day including books, newspapers and leaflets.
- Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
 - Checking that the text makes sense to them, explaining the meaning of words in context, asking questions to improve their understanding of a text.
 - Retrieve and record information from non-fiction and participate in discussion about both books.

Writing

- Use organisational devices e.g. headings, sub headings, bullet points and lists.
- Compose and rehearse sentences orally, building a rich vocabulary and a range of sentence structures.
- Assess effectiveness of their own and the writing of others, and look to suggest ways of 'up-staging' it.

Grammar and Punctuation

- Vary sentence structure by expressing time and cause using conjunctions, and prepositions.
- Correct use of past and present tense.
- Revision of apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling.
- Lists, bullet points, headings and sub headings to aid presentation.
- Continue to improve verbs using adverbs to aid interest.
- Develop use of interesting adjectives to aid impact.
- Consistently use paragraphs appropriately.

Spelling

- Work through the stage four spellings and apply them in their written work.
- Continue to develop accurate use of prefixes and suffixes.
- Identify and practice any weaknesses within the high frequency words.

Mathematics

Number - Number and Place Value

- Count on from 0 in multiples of 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 50 and 100.
- Find 10, 100, and 1000 more/less than a given number.
- Solve number problems involving multiples and 10 and 100 and 1000 more/less.

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers mentally - 4-digit number and tens/hundreds.
- Add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits, using formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems, including missing number problems.

Multiplication and Division

- Recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 times tables.
- Recall multiplication facts for 7 and 8 times table.

Fractions

- Recognise, find and write fractions of a number and equivalent fractions.
- Simplify fractions, as well as adding and subtracting fractions.

Measurement

- Gather data and present it in an appropriate way.
- Measure, compare, add and subtract volume/capacity (l, ml, mm, cm, m, km).
- Solve problems, add and subtract amounts of money to give change.
- Know the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and leap year.
- Accurately tell the time, and solves problems relating to it.

Geometry - Properties of Shapes

- Identify 2D shapes, recognise them different orientations and describe their properties.

History

The children will be learning about 'The Roman Empire' and how it became a powerful empire. They will continue to develop skills in order to do this, 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.
- Communication skills such as. using historical vocabulary and presenting to a good standard.

PSHCE

Myself and Others / Healthy lifestyles.

- The children will be learning about themselves, as well as others, as they continue to grow.
- They will also learn about how they can live a healthy active lifestyle.

Art

The children will be taking their inspiration from Roman mosaics and having a go at creating their own. To do this they will use skills such as:

- Creating original pieces inspired by artists - using clay and other mouldable materials - adding materials to provide interesting detail.

DT

The children are going to design, create, evaluate and improve a model of Roman aqueducts. To do this they will use skills such as:

- Measuring and marking to the nearest mm - Using cutting and joining techniques - Choosing suitable materials and strengthen them - designing with purpose - making products work efficiently - refining work and improving it.

Topic Title

Rowdy

Romans

PE

Please ensure both indoor and outdoor PE kits are in school every day and clearly labelled.

- The children will be working through the 'Real PE' scheme which will help them to improve their physical skills such as:
- Changing direction, speed, and level - refine movements into sequences - plan, perform and repeat sequences - travelling in a variety of ways.
- The children will also be working with the Warrington Wolves developing their skills in tag rugby.

Computing

- The children will be investigating how music can be created digitally on a variety of programmes and apps.
- They will listen to digitally created music and evaluate the different elements of it.
- They will work to create some of their own music on the computer, before editing and adapting it until it is completed.

Music

- Listen to and appraise a thought-provoking song on 'Charanga'.
- Research the different methods and techniques used to create the song.
- Compose their own verses and include them in the class song.
- Perform songs in tune, with accompaniments and improvisation added to it.