



Sacred Heart Year 6K Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term 2019

Welcome back to the Summer Term! This is the termly newsletter designed to give you an outline of the topics we are covering, this term and suggest ways in which you can help your child at home.

Class Information

- Miss Kennedy is the class teacher and Mrs Hanson is the part time teaching assistant (TA).
- We are also very lucky to have Mrs Boyle as our full-time LSA, and Mr Nguyen is also supporting the children between both Year 6 Classes.
- Mrs Potter will teach the children during my planning, preparation and management time - all day on a Thursday.
- Mrs Taylor will be teaching the children French on a weekly basis.
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's well-being, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me via the office, or email mkennedy@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk.
- The start of the day is a busy time preparing for lessons so I kindly ask that appointments be made for a convenient time after school. I will try to respond to emails received within 24 hrs. If urgent please notify the office.
- Please do take into account Sacred Heart's New Year's Resolutions are:
No 1: No emails or phone calls after 6.00pm
No 2. No emails at weekends
No 3: To leave school by 6.30pm each evening.
To support the staff in their attempts to keep these resolutions, if you do email them in these times, then please be patient in awaiting a response.

Routines and Reminders

- All children are encouraged to bring water bottles and a playtime healthy snack. This must only be fruit or vegetable or fruit or vegetable based please.

- As the weather starts to improve this term, please ensure your child has a named water bottle and sun hat in school every day (and sun cream when applicable).
- After May half term all children are expected to be wearing summer uniform.
- Items of jewellery should not be worn in school and all those with pierced ears must remove earrings for PE/Games lessons on Mondays and Fridays.
- Hair reaching shoulder length should always be tied back.
- Please ensure all clothing (including PE kits) is clearly marked with your child's name. The kit should consist of a Sacred Heart T-shirt, school shorts, white socks and black plimsolls. The children should also have a Sacred Heart Tracksuit and a pair of trainers for outdoor games.
- PE Kit: I appreciate that the children are of course continuing to grow and may no longer be able to wear their kit from last year / term. If your child has outgrown their kit please be aware that their comfort during outside lessons is paramount - they can wear kit in a **plain dark colour** (no motifs).
- Please could I also ask that PE kit is in school every day, as there is some fluidity in the timetable this term. Many thanks for your support in this matter.
- Please do ensure the office hold up to date medical information for your child and up to date contact details for yourself.
- The children can bring a mobile phone to school with them, these need to be placed in the mobile phone box at the start of the day and collected by your child at the end of the day. I have asked that all children refrain from using their mobile phones in the playground.
- As a school, we fully appreciate that there are times when the older children will have permission to bring cash into school (i.e. for the purpose of going to the shop after school) - this is fully to be expected and is part of their development.
- Please note, if your child brings an amount into school of more than £5 this must be placed in a named envelope and placed into the mobile phone box, in the morning, for safe keeping. This only applies to any money brought in by the children for use after school. All monies relating to school activities such as dinner money and school trip money should go to the school office in the usual way.

Reading

- Reading journals and reading books need to be in school daily for every child.
- Your child is able to write in their own reading record to show what they have read. In addition, we would ask that you sign your child's reading record at least once a week.
- Reading with your child is important, so please take the time, even in Year 6, to hear your child read and talk to them about the books they are reading

- The children are responsible for changing their own books and they do this from the class library. They can, of course, also bring in books from home or a local library.
- Although I want them to really enjoy their reading, I do expect them to challenge themselves and I will monitor what they are reading through their reading journal and discussions in class. It is, however, more important that they develop a love of reading, than read texts that are too challenging for them!
- The children will be completing Guided Reading Sessions, this term, whereby, as a class, we will complete reading comprehensions and develop our answers and test techniques.
- We will continue with our 'Starbooks Reading Café' this term and the children will be informed when the visits to the café will take place. This is proving to be a great success and the children in Year 6K LOVE it!

Parent Helpers

- I would really appreciate any parents that are able to volunteer their time to help in Year 6K. Please do email me or let me know if you are able to assist and the days and times you are available.
- From time to time I may require parent helpers for DT and Art activities. If you think that you could spare some time to help out during these activities please let me know. I will send emails with details of the activities as they arise through the year and invite any willing volunteers to come along and help out.
- All parent helpers will be asked to have a DBS check and complete a Volunteer Helper Agreement - simply ask at the office for these. Thank you.

Homework

- ✓ I would be exceptionally grateful if you were able to assist with ensuring the children have a positive attitude towards their homework. Pupils should have good time management and their homework will be expected to be of the same high standard as their class work.
- ✓ It is imperative that we all encourage the children to foster their independence skills throughout Year 6 and ask them as much as possible to take some responsibility for their own learning and organisational skills. As part of this the children are expected to take most of the responsibility for ensuring that they have their homework and that they hand each one in to me (complete) on the correct day.
- ✓ Homework will be set on Monday (due Wednesday) Wednesday (due Friday) and Friday (due Tuesday). At times, as we prepare for SATs this may differ and I ask for your support with this please.
- ✓ This term, the children will also be asked to complete a reading comprehension, at home, each week. This will be issued on a Monday and will be expected to be returned by that Friday - again this may change as necessary.

- ✓ I will endeavour to mark the homework before the next piece of set - however, this is a very quick turn around and may not always be possible. I would greatly appreciate your support and patience with this.
- ✓ Children have been given their logins for My Maths and Mathletics and they have stuck these into their homework diaries.

Spellings

Children will be given a spelling lesson each Friday, where they will explore a range of spelling rules. They will then be given a range of spelling (based on that rule). The children will be given a week to learn these spellings.

The children will also be issued with a 'Handy Hints for Spelling Activity Book' which I will be encouraging them to use to revise their spellings.

The children will be tested on their spellings the following Thursday. This test will, sometimes, be in form of dictation so it is vital they children know the meaning of their words. The children will also be expected to punctuate this dictation correctly, in order to assist with their grammar learning.

We will also be focusing on the Year 5 and 6 - the children will be informed what spellings they need to learn, each week. I am so impressed with the children's progress in these spellings, so far and thank you for all your support in helping your child secure these.

Literacy This term we will spend the first part revising and consolidating knowledge of SPAG for our SATs - we will then be focusing on applying this to our written work consistently.

Instructions and Explanations

The SPAG focus:

Use brackets, dashes and commas to indicate parenthesis.

Use semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries between main clauses

Use colons to introduce lists

Punctuate bullet points consistently

Story Writing

The SPAG focus:

Recognise and use passive and active voice

Recognise and use of imagery

Recognise past progressive verbs

Use of similes and metaphors

Revision of direct speech punctuation

Persuasive Writing

The SPAG focus:

Create some expanded noun phrases using a given head noun.

Identify and list useful connectives for formal persuasive text.

Identify the uses of apostrophes: to indicate omission in contractions and to show possession.

Use apostrophes when converting formal text into informal dialogue.

Define modal verbs.

Identify modal verbs used in persuasive texts

Narrative Writing

The SPAG focus:

Subjunctive mood

Imagery

Similes, metaphors, hyperbole and personification

Reported speech

Relative clauses

Subordinate clauses

Direct speech punctuation

Past perfect and past progressive verbs

Maths

This term we will be revising and consolidating our skills in preparation for our SATs. We will also be ensuring we can apply our skills to reasoning style questions.

We will revise across the maths curriculum and revise the following areas:

Mental addition and subtraction & those calculations associated with place value.

Written addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies including long multiplication and long division.

Fractions, decimals and percentages including fractions of amounts, percentages of amounts and understanding the equivalence of simple fractions, decimals and percentages e.g. $0.1 = 1/10 = 10\%$.

Calculating with fractions and decimals including mixed numbers and improper fractions.

Problem solving involving all topic areas.

Statistics - reading and interpreting data and completing charts accurately using the appropriate intervals / scale.

Measurement and Time - problem solving involving converting units of measurement.

Geometry - describe positions in all four quadrants and solve problems relating to this, calculate internal angles of regular shapes, simple formulae for missing angles in quadrilaterals and interpret and sort shapes using Carroll and Venn diagrams.

We will look at how questions are presented and identify key vocabulary to identify the appropriate calculation/information to answer with accuracy.

Religious Education

The children will be following the Come and See programme. This term's themes are "Serving - Witness" "Reconciliation" "Universal Church". Lessons are a combination of discussion, written/art work, reflection and prayer. The children will also take part in the whole school assemblies every week. We will attend mass on the dates given in the Newsletters.

Science

We will covering the following topics in Science: Evolution and Inheritance, Classification of living things, Animals including humans.

Evolution and Inheritance

In this topic the children will learn:

- how living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.
- how living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.
- how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

Classification of Living things

In this topic the children will:

- describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
- give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics

Animals including humans

In this topic the children will:

- identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans

All topics contain experimental and investigative work that will focus on predicting what might happen, observing and making comparisons (including finding patterns in data / observations), taking measurements, recording and presenting results. Our practical enquiries will enable us to draw conclusions to answer scientific questions and encourage potential additional lines of enquiry.

Geography

We will be comparing and contrasting two areas in the world.

Computer Science

This term we will look closely at e safety and how important this is especially as we transfer to secondary school. We will also be using our word processing skills to publish work and creating powerpoints for a range of presentation style work.

PE

Please refer to routines and reminders with regards to PE Kit

The children will focus on a range of summer sports, including Athletics, Cricket and Rounders this term. We will be making the most of the glorious weather!

French

As mentioned earlier, French will be taught by Mrs Taylor.

The children will be learning to:

- listen and engage
- ask and answer questions
- speak in sentences using familiar vocabulary
- develop appropriate pronunciation
- show understanding of words and phrases
- appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes

They will also be broadening their vocabulary around the topics of:
Shopping in France including: simple conversations, using money, naming the different shops, naming items of clothing and revisiting colours.
Daily timetable and activities at school along with telling the time

Music

Mrs Fogg is the specialist music teacher and she teaches the children for one lesson each week, on a Wednesday afternoon, in addition to hymn practice sessions. Your child can attend the choir if they wish to but they will need to speak directly to Mrs Fogg about this.

PSHE

The children will be studying relationships with others. We will consider the building of and developing relationships, showing respect for one another and ourselves, playing by the rules, valuing the things we are good at and identifying those skills we wish to improve and how to do this. We will also be exploring the impact of drugs and alcohol on the human body and this will be linked with our Science topics.

Art

We will be working on our 'Take One Picture Project' The children are very excited about this and we are looking forward to seeing how the children respond to this year's famous piece of artwork.

TRIPS/ENRICHMENT

We have our very exciting trip to PGL this term. We are certainly looking forward to this super opportunity to experience a range of interesting and enjoyable activities.

Please do note that the timetable may be more fluid this term, as we prepare for SATs. We ask for your support and understanding with this and can ensure the children will be completing a broad and balance curriculum. It may just be, for example, we complete whole Science or Art days to ensure all objectives are covered in time for SATs.

I hope you can appreciate there is an awful lot to cover and I would like the children to be as well prepared as possible to show their full potential!

We will also be preparing for the children's final school production, where they will have an opportunity to display their musical, technical and acting talents.

The children have a made an excellent start to the new term and I am so delighted with their positive, hard-working approach to their learning.

Thank you for your continued support. We very much look forward to continuing to work alongside you for the rest of this year. I really do appreciate all you do!

Your children are a real credit to you and you should feel incredibly proud of them all! I absolutely love teaching them!

Many Thanks
Miss Kennedy