



Sacred Heart Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter

Summer Term 2018

Welcome back! 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 Fekkes is the class teacher. Miss McClenaghan will work full time with the class.
- Additional support from Mrs Coney will be provided Monday - Wednesday (am).
- The children will also be taught by (PPA teachers) Mrs. Fogg for Music and Ms Yen for PSHE, R.E. and Art
- If you have any concerns regarding your child's well-being, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see either of us via the office, or email - lfekkes@sacredheart.richmond.sch.uk. The start of the day is a busy time preparing for lessons so we ask that appointments be made for a convenient time after school. We will try to respond to emails received within 24 hrs. If urgent please notify the office.

Routines and Reminders

- All children need a named water bottle in school every day.
- Items of jewellery should not be worn in school and all those with pierced ears must remove earrings for P.E./Games lessons on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Long hair should always be tied back.
- Please ensure all clothing (including P.E. 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 in school for outdoor games. Trainers must be in school every day as well should there be a change to the timetable.

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 journal to show what they have read. In addition, we would ask that you sign your child's reading journal at least once a week.
- Reading with your child is important, so please take the time to hear your child read and talk to them about the books they are reading.
- Most of the children are now responsible for changing their own books and they do this from the class library; however, they can bring in a named book from home to use as their reading book if they wish rather than using the class library. A book is suitable for a child if they can finish reading it in two weeks or make fewer than 5 errors on each page.

Parent Helpers

- We are always most grateful for regular parent helpers to listen to the children read - more information to follow through class reps.
- From time to time we require parent helpers for DT and Art activities. These activities are usually quite 'high maintenance'! If you think that you could spare some time to help out during these activities please let us know. We 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

English Home Learning

Spellings

- Every week a list of spellings to learn (in a spelling folder) will be given out on a Friday for a spelling test on the following Friday. These folders are to be returned to school on **Thursday**.

Comprehension and Grammar

- Comprehension and Grammar & Punctuation Workbooks will be given out on **alternate weeks**. These will be given out on a Friday to be returned for the following **Wednesday**. We are in the process of ordering these - so please bear with us.

Reading Journals

- Reading with your child is important, so please take the time to hear your child read and talk to them about the books they are reading. They should read for at least twenty minutes daily.
- The children need to record a minimum of 5 entries per week
- Your child should write down the pages they have read at home and whilst at school
- In addition, we would ask that you sign your child's journal at least once a week.
- It is important that we encourage the children to read fluently and that they fully comprehend what they are reading.
- This term the children must complete one reading journal activity from the back of their reading journals, they are expected to spend 20 minutes completing this activity.
- Reading journals will be collected in and checked for 5 entries, one signature and the completed activity on Thursdays

Maths Home learning

Maths home learning will comprise times tables to learn each week, Mathematics books, relevant practise sheets or online tasks.

Maths home learning will be given out on a Friday to be completed or returned by the following **Wednesday**.

We continue to encourage the children to foster their independence skills throughout Year 4 and ask the children 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 some responsibility for ensuring that they have their home learning and that they hand it in to us when completed.

Curriculum covered in school

English

This term we will be looking at:

Fiction

This term, we will be looking at an illustration book to deepen the children's understanding of the story and character development whilst considering other issues. This will be a very interactive book which will allow children to engage in the book and facilitate discussion.

A key skill for this term across our English learning is that the children will self and peer evaluate their writing to develop and improve its effectiveness. Additionally, we will be considering authorial intent and language choices.

Maths

This term we will continue to develop the children's learning in problem solving and calculations. Additionally, we will begin to look at reasoning skills in more depth. Children will complete regular arithmetic tests covering a variety of topics and mental maths facts. The children do not need to prepare for these tests, although fluency of times table recall and mental addition / subtraction will certainly help them.

Children will also develop their understanding of:

Fractions, Data Handling (Statistics), Conversion between different measurements, Word problems with mixed calculations (1 and 2 step) and Roman Numerals. Moreover, we will revise the four operations and their methods.

Religious Education

The children will continue to follow the 'Come and See' religious scheme of work.

We will be focusing on the following themes based around:

New Life: This is where the children will know and learn about the power of the Holy Spirit in giving new life in relation to the Easter Story, St Paul and how it can relate to their own lives.

Building Bridges: In this topic we will look at building bridges of friendship and the importance of admitting wrong and being reconciled with one another and God.

God's People: In this topic we will look at ordinary people who do extraordinary things and different saints who show people what God is like.

Our lessons will continue to be a combination of discussion, written work, reflection and prayer. The children take part in whole school and junior assemblies every week and will attend whole school Masses at various points during the term.

Science

This half term, we are studying living things and their habitats. In the next half term, we will be looking at Animals- including Humans where we learn about the digestive system and teeth.

History

This term we will be learning about the Romans and their impact on Britain.

ICT

Children will also use the computers to explore the curriculum and as a presentation / publishing tool by using a variety of programs including Word and PowerPoint. Technology is available in class through the addition of laptops across the school, with 6 available throughout the school day in Year 4.

Art

This term we will be looking at mosaics, especially Roman mosaics. In the next half term, our art work will be centred around the painting 'Men of the Docks' by George Bellows as part of the Take One Picture Project led by the National Gallery.

French

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 and broaden vocabulary in French using the programme *Où habites-tu?*

P.E.

The children will be learning athletics and Tennis across the whole summer term.

Music

Mrs Fogg is the specialist music teacher and she teaches the children for one lesson each week, on a Wednesday, in addition to hymn practice sessions. On Tuesday afternoons we welcome Geo and Dom from the RMT who will be teaching the children Brass. There will be a performance of the children's work at the end of these sessions. More information to come.

P.S.H.E.

The children will be learning about differences between each other and valuing their individuality.

Best wishes,

Miss Fekkes