



Sacred Heart
Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2019

Welcome back! This termly newsletter is 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

- Mrs Furrer is the class teacher. Miss Flowers, Mrs Tennant, and Mrs Coney are our teaching and learning assistants. Mrs Tennant is with us Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday all day; Mrs Coney is with us Thursday and Friday all day and Miss Flowers is with us every day.
- On Wednesday afternoon the children will be taught music by Mrs Fogg.
- On Friday afternoons the children will be taught PSHE by Mrs Taylor and then Miss Cannon who will be teaching the computing curriculum.
- 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 – hfurrer@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 Mondays 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.
- Please ensure all kit and uniform is clearly named and in school at all times, thank you.

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 **Wednesday**.

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**.
- **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.
 - 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.

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 **Thursday**.

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.

English

This term we will be looking at:

- **Fiction**

Fantasy and Imaginative Stories: The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Additionally, we will also be reading The Adventures of Odysseus as well as looking at play scripts.

- **Non-fiction**

Instructions and explanations

Information texts

- **Poetry**

Descriptive poems that create powerful images

Syllabic poems including tankas and haikus.

Our learning across the curriculum will also inspire writing tasks in Year 4.

Maths

This term we will be learning about:

- Number and place value (up to 4 digits)
- Mental addition and subtraction
- Formal written addition and subtraction methods
- Mental and written multiplication and division
- Times table focus
- Measurement (including time, weight, length, capacity)

Religious Education

The children will be following the 'Come and See' religious scheme of work. They will be exploring themes based around:

Family: The Family of God in Scripture - Jesus has a natural family with real people with names and a history.

Belonging: Through Baptism and Confirmation people are given the gift of the Holy Spirit and are called to respond in their lives.

Loving: God's gift of Jesus is a gift of love to all people of all time. Jesus reveals God's love for humanity and the possibility of friendship. This gift is celebrated each Christmas.

During the season of Advent we explore the gift of love and the promise of Jesus' return at the end of time.

Our lessons are a combination of discussion, written work, reflection and prayer. The children take part in whole school assemblies on Tuesday and Friday mornings and hymn practice every Wednesday morning. The children also help to prepare and lead class collective worship every Thursday.

Science

We will be studying States of Matter this half term. After half term our topic will be Electricity. Children will learn how to create a range of circuits and will make their own electric switch. They will also learn about electrical safety and use in the home.

History

This term we will be looking at the Ancient Greeks; we will look at different aspects of Ancient Greece and the impact they had on the modern world.

ICT

In ICT this term, we will be using an educational programming tool called 'Scratch'. In addition to this Junior Jam will provide a computing session on a Thursday afternoon which will focus on the skills and knowledge the children will need to know in Year 4.

Art and Design and Technology

We are focusing on sketching and drawing, creating Greek Theatre Masks and pop-up Christmas cards.

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?* This term in particular the children will be looking at the wider environment in which they live including naming towns and places in a town, places and objects in school.

P.E.

The children will take part in swimming, gym, dance and games lessons in which they learn individual skills as well as how to work as a team. P.E will take place on Monday and Thursday.

Swimming will take place on Friday afternoons (for a one hour lesson) in the weeks commencing 8th November, 15th November and 22nd November.

Music

Mrs Fogg is the specialist music teacher and she teaches the children for one lesson each week, on a Tuesday, in addition to hymn practice sessions.

P.S.H.E.

The children will continue learning about the rules and routines of being in school. We will be looking at *New Beginnings*. We will be working on building and developing relationships, showing respect for one another and ourselves, playing by the rules, and valuing the things we are good at and identifying those skills we wish to improve and how to do this. In addition, we will develop our own class rules, rewards and consequences.

ADDITIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

In addition to the dates above, please also note the following important dates for your diary:

- Friday 27th September – Macmillan coffee morning.
- Friday 8th November – Swimming starts for Year 4 (for three weeks on a Friday).
- Parents Evenings – 12th November/ 14th November (4:00pm – 6:30pm).
- Open Evening- 28th November.
- EYFS Nativity – 10th December 2019 at 9.30 am
- KS1 Nativity – 12th December 2019 at 9.30 am
- KS2 Carol Concert – 16th December 2019 at 7.00 pm
All KS2 children are expected to attend
- Friday 20th December - End of Term 1:30pm

The children have made an excellent start to Year 4! We are looking forward to a successful year working with you and your child.

Best wishes,

Mrs Furrer