St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Oak, Maple and Hazel Class Information Letters - September 2016



Dear Parents – Welcome to our new school year. We hope you all had an enjoyable holiday and feel renewed and refreshed, ready to face the coming term. The purpose of this letter is to provide an overview of the work that your child will be undertaking in each area of the curriculum during this term. It is hoped that this information will enable you to prepare, support and reinforce your discussions with your child about their schoolwork. Should you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. **Please refer to the attached letter for R.E. topics**. Miss Roper will teach Oak class on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss Rodia will teach Oak Class on Tuesday. Mrs Mishan will teach a weekly topic session to all three classes.

English

Fiction

- Narrative: Stories from other cultures
- Narrative: Stories by significant authors (Roald Dahl)
- Poetic Form: Humorous poems

Non-Fiction

- Information Texts
- Instructions and Explanations

Spelling and Grammar

 We will be following the objectives of the new curriculum using the Rising Stars scheme (see homework section).

Guided Reading (on-going groups) Handwriting (on-going)

French

The aspects covered will include some of the following topics:

- Greetings How old are you?
- Colours
- Animals
- Numbers and months of the year
- Some action verbs
- Simple everyday conversation

Science

This term we will be following the Rising Stars Scheme, focusing on:

Brilliant Bubbles (Basic chemical reactions)

Opposites Attract (Magnetic forces)

Music

Music lessons will follow the Music Express scheme of work and will cover a range of short topics including:

Environment (composition)
Building (beat)
Sounds (exploring sounds)
Poetry (performance)

Maths

Number (mental and written)

- Place value
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division
- Fractions, (decimals and percentages Yr4)
- Ongoing tables and related division facts

Shape and Measures

- Measurement and length
- 2D and 3D shapes
- Locating positions on grids
- Time

Data Handling

 Collecting, classifying and interpreting data in tally charts, frequency tables and pictograms

<u>P.E.</u>

Swimming

 This term Hazel class will be swimming on Monday mornings (Please ensure all girls have a swimming hat and remove their earrings)

Team Games – Football & Hockey etc

- To develop mobility and spatial awareness
- To develop a range of throwing and catching skills and techniques.
- To develop tactical awareness

Gymnastics:

- Identify and use different body parts to balance on and know which combinations produce stable bases
- To travel and jump fluently and hold balanced positions demonstrating a variety of stretched and curled shapes.
- Floor and apparatus work

<u>Art</u>

In art, we will be studying the work of Seurat and exploring pointillism.

History

This term we will be learning about **Stone Age** existence and its significance in the history of human development.

Geography

This term our topic will be 'Where on Earth are we?'

This will include map work and a range of geographic enquiry skills

Computing

This term we will be following the Rising Stars Scheme, focusing on:

Bug fixers (Debug a range of programmes)

Software developers (Creating a game)

D.T.

In design and technology lessons we will be planning and constructing delicious sandwich snacks.

General Information

Please provide a water bottle and ensure that they are refreshed every day. Please ensure that all school uniform, including PE kit, is clearly labelled with your child's name. If you wish to speak with us, we will be available most days after school but it is advisable to arrange an appointment with us. If you need to speak to us urgently in the morning we will be available for a quick chat as the registration period is very short. Please note that there is also a clipboard for urgent messages available for parents to write on if the teacher is busy.

Homework

All children will receive literacy and numeracy homework on alternate weeks.

For maths: The children must practise their times tables facts daily to achieve instant recall. They will be tested on the times table they are individually learning. Please see booklet for details. Learning times tables are very important as these facts are used in nearly all maths lessons.

For literacy: Homework will compliment work covered in class during the term.

There will be a list of weekly spellings to learn and these will be tested in school. In addition we have attached a copy of a list of words that are expected to be known by year 3 and 4 pupils. Please take time during the year to learn these with your child, at your convenience.

Please ensure that you hear your child read each evening (where possible) for 10-15 minutes focused time!

Uniform/Appearance

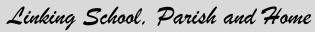
We believe that the children should take pride in the way they present themselves e.g. shirt tucked in and top buttons done up. We *do not* permit hair gel, nail polish or jewellery besides plain studs and a watch and we would be grateful for your support in this matter. If hair is able to be tied up, then it should be at all times.

The children are expected to have clearly labelled indoor and outdoor shoes (please avoid black rubber soles indoors) and labelled P.E. kit.

Yours sincerely,

K Roper / R Rodia (Oak) P Jarrett (Hazel) S Bull (Maple)

The Year of Mercy







Religious Education

Key Idea: In the Beginning

This unit is intended as the first for the academic year 2016/2017. As this unit is timed to be the first taught and to support Archbishop Vincent's themes for the Year of Mercy, this unit focuses on the stories of creation as recorded in Genesis and the Psalms as expressions of prayer.

Unit Content

Pupils begin their study by examining one or both of the stories of creation found in Genesis 1 and 2. In learning about and then praying the Psalms, pupils learn how the Church praises God in creation.

Attitudes and Spiritual Dispositions

It is hoped that pupils will develop:

- A sense of wonder for creation
- A willingness to learn from Scripture
- An appreciation of the truths contained in Scripture
- A sense of the value of prayer

Activities to try at home

You are the first educator of your child in faith. Your child's learning in religious education will be much higher if you and the school are engaged in talking about the same ideas and beliefs. Help your child by trying one or more of these activities while this unit is being taught:

- Tell stories about 'beginnings' in your family: your extended family, births, moves to another place or house, starting school, building or making something.
- Be creative! Bake or cook with your children, plant or weed the garden, undertake a project together. Celebrate your creativity!

An idea for prayer at home

Prayer Activity



Pray at mealtimes:

'Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hope and dreams and visions rock of faith and vault of grace, here the love of Christ shall end division, all are welcome in this place!' Marty Haugen.