# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

# Information letter for Oak and Pine Classes – April 2023

Dear Parents – Welcome back. We hope you and your children had an enjoyable Easter holiday and feel refreshed and ready to face the coming term. The purpose of this letter is to provide an overview of the curriculum that will be covered this term. It is hoped that this will guide and reinforce your discussions with your child about their schoolwork. Should you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. The R.E. topic information will be sent out separately.

# **English**

#### **Fiction**

- Fairy Tales and Play Scripts
- Performance poetry

#### **Non-Fiction**

Non Chronological Reports

# **Poetry**

Classic poems

## **Spelling and Grammar**

- We will teach weekly spelling rules based on the scheme 'Spelling Shed.'
- There will also be a weekly grammar lesson.

# **Guided Reading**

 Whole class texts being explored in class including comprehension questions from the 'Reading Vipers' scheme.

#### **Handwriting**

Handwriting will be ongoing in class.

## **French**

The aspects covered will include some of the following topics:

- To justify opinions
- Alphabet
- Countries
- Transport

#### **Science**

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

# Power it up

- To identify components of circuits
- To learn about sources of electricity and how it travels around a circuit
- To draw circuit diagrams

# **Maths**

# Number (mental and written)

- Formal written method for multiplication of a 3-digit by a 1-digit number
- Formal written method for division of a 3-digit number by 1-digit using the 'Bus Stop' method.
- Understanding the four operations
- Finding fractions of quantities
- Read and write negative numbers to -20
- Ongoing tables and related division facts to 12X12

#### **Shape and Measures**

- Naming and classify triangles including isosceles, equilateral, right-angle and scalene
- Describe position and direction
- Read and plot co-ordinates in the first quadrant
- Identifying acute, obtuse and rightangles
- Read, write and calculate Time
- Roman Numerals to 100

#### **Data Handling/Statistics**

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

Lessons will also provide children with an opportunity to develop their mastery, application and fluency skills.

# <u>P.E.</u>

### Pentathlon

This will be with our sports coaches – Ross and Callum

Oak class will be swimming on a Monday morning and have PE on Friday. Pine will have PE on Wednesday and Thursday.

#### What's that sound?

- To identify how sound travels in waves
- To learn that sounds are created and heard when something vibrates
- To investigate how sound can be altered

## <u>Music</u>

### Time (beat)

- To understand rhythm and syncopation.
- To listen to an orchestral clock piece and create descriptive music.

### In the past (notation)

 To notate and build performances from different styles and periods.

#### Food and drink

 To explore songs on the theme of food and participate in a sung performance.

# <u>History</u>

# Is it better to be a child now or in the past?

- To explore how childhood has changed
- To use sources / evidence to work out information about how childhood has changed in different historical periods

#### Geography

#### Can the earth shake rattle and roll?

- To describe and understand the key aspects of volcanoes and earthquakes
- To understand that the distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes follows a pattern.
- To learn about the `Pacific Ring Of Fire.'

# <u>Art</u>

# Journeys

- Investigate symbols of Aboriginal art
- Create a piece of artwork in the style of an Aboriginal journey
- Identify different ways of representing objects and features relating to maps and journeys.
- Investigate the work of Paul Klee

# **Computing**

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

#### We are musicians

- Composing music using EJay software
- Explore rhythm, beat and melody
- Instrumental accompaniments

## **P.S.H.E**

PSHE this term is focusing on relationships from our new scheme Jigsaw. We will also be looking at lifecycles, the church and community.

#### D.T.

#### **Alarms**

- To investigate what alarm systems are used for and how different types of switches are activated
- To create electrical circuits with different switches
- To design and create an alarm system for a particular purpose
- To evaluate a finished product

#### **General Information**

Please provide a water bottle and ensure that they are refreshed every day. Oak will have swimming on a Monday and P.E. on a Friday. Pine will have P.E. on a Thursday and a Friday. If you wish to communicate something urgent, then please email the office within working hours and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

#### Homework

All children will receive English, maths or topic homework. This will rotate on a weekly basis.

**For Maths**: The children must practice their times tables facts daily to achieve instant recall. They will be tested regularly on the times tables they are individually learning.

There will be a list of weekly spellings to learn (on Spelling Shed and Seesaw) and accompanying activities and online games to help make the learning more fun! Spelling rules will be taught weekly and spellings will be tested in school on a Friday.

Please ensure that you hear your child read each evening (where possible) for 10-15 minutes. Please ask them to summarize what they have read in their own words, and where possible, to predict what might happen next. This will support our ongoing comprehension work in class.

# 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 also expected to have clearly **named** indoor and outdoor shoes.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are looking forward to lots of new learning this term!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Canny (Oak) Mrs Browne (Pine)