



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

"To live, love and learn in a caring Christian community"

Class Information Letter January 2020: Pine, Sycamore and Willow classes

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and are ready for a busy spring term! The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a broad overview of the work that your child/ren will be completing in each area of the curriculum this term. It is hoped that this information will enable you to prepare, support and hold discussions with your child/ren about their schoolwork.

(For R.E., please see our attached letter)

Literacy

Fiction

- Reading texts from different genres and authors
- Plan and write narrative stories
- Poetry

Non-Fiction

- Journalistic writing
- Formal and Impersonal writing
- Non-chronological reports
- Biographies

Speaking and Listening

- Use a range of oral techniques to present persuasive arguments
- Sequence points logically
- Use different types of questions and words
- Performing poetry
- Listen carefully and respond thoughtfully

Spelling

We will be following the objectives of the new curriculum. Spellings will be sent home every week and should be practised daily.

Grammar and punctuation

Weekly comprehension

Handwriting

Numeracy

Number

- Place value, ordering and rounding numbers
- Number operations (x - / +)
- Fractions, decimals and percentages
- Problem solving and algebra
- Making decisions and checking results using inverse operations

Shape, Space and Measures

- Measure length, mass and capacity
- Identify, measure and draw angles
- Understand and convert metric units
- 2D and 3D shapes; reasoning about shapes
- Calculate area, perimeter and volume
- Measures, including solving problems

Data Handling

- Solve problems by representing, extracting and interpreting data in tally charts, frequency tables, pictograms, bar charts, diagrams and line graphs

If you require further information on these units of work please look at the following:

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Parents.aspx>

<http://bbc.co.uk/schools>

<http://www.channel4.co.uk/learning>

<http://www.stjosephs207.herts.school.uk>

P.E.

This term, due to the building work and the weather, our P.E. topics will be indoor.

Dance - On the beach

Developing skills of unision, mirroring, control and repetition.

Gymnastics - Body Symmetry

Linking actions to make sequences of movements and developing flexibility, strength, technique and control.

Indoor Athletics

Speed bounce, long jump, javelin, chest push and relay racing.

Science

Let it shine

In this unit, the children will learn about the processes associated with light. This will include where light comes from and how it travels. They will also be learning about the formation of shadows.

Material World

In this unit, the children learn about materials and how they change. First they test properties of materials, before looking at how materials dissolve, what a solution is, and evaporation. Finally, the children compare reversible and irreversible changes.

Computing

We are Web developers

In this unit, the children will develop their internet based research skills, gaining an insight into the validity and suitability of online information. They will also develop their understanding of e-safety and responsible use of technology.

We are game developers

In this unit, the children will learn more about the creation of online games and design characters and backgrounds to be included in their own computer game. They will be using their own algorithms to help develop an online game for others to play.

History

Why should we remember the Maya?

In this unit, the children will explore the world of the Maya. This will include contrasting the Mayan civilisation with British history. They will also learn why historians have different views on the Maya, gaining an insight into the validity of historical sources.

Geography

Where does all our stuff come from?

In this unit, the children will find out about the UK's global trade links, investigating where everyday products come from and the journey they take to our homes. They will also look at the pros and cons of buying local or imported goods.

D&T

Moving toys

In this unit, the children will discover how different shaped cams and motors can alter the movement of toys and create a sturdy structure using a variety of tools and techniques. They will then have the chance to design, make and evaluate their own moving toy with a cam mechanism.

Art

People in action

In this unit, the children will look at the process of movement and how it has inspired artists to capture people in action. They will learn different methods and techniques to create their own movement art.

Music

Music lessons will follow the Music Express scheme and topics this term include:

Growth: Exploring the idea of street dance and flash mob performances.

Roots: Creating a performance about the effects of the slave trade on a West African village.

French

The children will develop language skills including, grammar, listening, speaking, writing and reading. The topics covered this term include:

- The Classroom
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General Information

P.E.

Please ensure that your child has their correct kit in school throughout the week and **ensure that it is labelled**. Pupils should have:

White shirt and blue shorts, or blue tracksuit for games during the colder months, plain trainers, socks, and tape for earrings if these cannot be removed.

Homework:

All children will receive English and maths homework each week. English homework will include a grammar or punctuation activity and weekly spellings. We also expect your child to be reading regularly at home. Maths homework will usually be based on the objectives covered in class that week. In addition, your child ***must*** also continue to practise their times tables facts to achieve instant recall. Pupils may also be sent home with test papers that need correcting or completing and we expect your child to be reading regularly at home.

Please note that the above may vary depending on their sets

Further to the above, you will also be required to carry out research tasks for a variety of class topics in other subjects throughout the term.

UKS2 Y5

English: homework will be sent home on a **Friday** and should be handed in the following **Thursday** (this includes spellings which will be tested on a Friday).

Maths: homework will also be sent home on a **Friday** and should be handed in the following **Thursday**.

UKS2 Y6

Initially, homework will be sent home as for Year 5 children: however, with the arrival of the CGP revision books, the children will be completing these independently to prepare for their SAT's in May. They will continue to receive weekly spellings to practise.

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 would be grateful for your support in this matter. The children are expected to have clearly labelled indoor and outdoor shoes (please avoid black rubber soles indoors) and labelled PE kit.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Brooks

Mr Doherty

Mr Dove