



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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

Class Information Letter April 2024: Sycamore and Willow classes

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you enjoyed a happy and restful Easter Holiday and are ready for the Summer 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)

English

This term we are continuing to use a new and innovative way of approaching English, which comes from Herts for Learning. The scheme includes the teaching of grammar and punctuation.

We will be continue to consider the purpose of our writing under the four following headings: **Entertain; Inform; Persuade; Discuss** These four purposes will encompass the writing genres that we are used to referring to.

Fiction

• **'Blackberry Blue: And Other Fairy Tales'** by Jamila Gavin & illustrated by Richard Collingridge

Non-Fiction

• **'Survivors: Extraordinary tales from the wild and beyond'** by David Long and Kerry Hyndman

Poetry

• Poetry to entertain – **"Be the Change: Poems to Help You Save the World"** by Liz Brownlee, Matt Goodfellow & Roger Stevens.

Speaking and Listening

- Sequence points logically
- Use different types of questions and words
- Listen carefully and respond thoughtfully

Weekly comprehension linked to the guided reading text: Skellig by David Almond.

Maths

Ratio and Proportion

- Solve problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities where missing values can be found
- Solve problems involving similar shapes where the scale factor is known or can be found.

Measures

- Use, read, write and convert between standard units, converting measurements of length, mass, volume and time from a smaller unit of

Shape

- Calculate the area of parallelograms and triangles
- Illustrate and name parts of circles, including radius, diameter and circumference and know that the diameter is twice the radius.

Fractions, Decimals and Percentages

- Solve problems involving the calculation of percentages (for example of measures such as 15% of 360) and the use of percentages for comparison
- Associate a fraction with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents (for example 0.375 for a simple fraction $\frac{3}{8}$).

P.E.

Cricket – the pupils will learn to bowl a ball accurately and strike a ball with a bat accurately. They will also develop fielding and catching skills.

Athletics – the children learn to copy, repeat and evaluate simple athletic skills and actions (run, throw, jump) showing control and co-ordination.

Science

Classifying Critters

The children will understand how living things can be classified into groups scientifically. They will learn that microbes and fungi can be helpful (e.g. through decay) and harmful. They use research skills to find out about famous scientists.

Dinosaur Hunters

The children explore the Mesozoic period, identifying its characteristics and recording results in a variety of ways. They will research and locate evidence to support theories as to why dinosaurs became extinct before creating and presenting a fact file on their chosen dinosaur.

Art

Cityscapes

The children will learn to use Pop art techniques and layering to create a 3D cityscape. They will understand how to use a palette knife and paint to create textured cityscapes. They will replicate cityscape photos using different mediums and

measure to a larger unit, and vice versa, using decimal notation to up to three decimal places.

- Convert between the following imperial and metric units of measurement: miles and kilometres; inches and centimetres; pounds and kilograms; pints and litres.

Computing

We are bloggers

This unit will enable the children to become familiar with blogs as a medium and a genre of writing; create a sequence of blog posts on a theme; incorporate additional media; comment on the posts of others; develop a critical, reflective view of a range of media, including text. [History](#)

How did World War Two impact our local area?

The pupils will research, select, organise and communicate findings; develop a chronological understanding of World War Two; devise historically valid questions about World War Two; understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources; recognise the strengths and limitations of local history as a way of telling the story of World War Two.

explore how to create reflections of cityscapes on water.

Geography

Are we damaging our world?

In this unit, the children will consider if we are damaging our world and how we can protect it. They investigate energy production, the oceans and minerals, as well as conducting an enquiry into how the school can become more sustainable.

Music

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

Ancient Worlds (Structure): To perform a song cycle and a round; to compose ostinato accompaniments.

Food and Drink (Performance): To sing a repertoire of chants and songs using rhythmic patterns; to compose and perform to others.

French

The children will develop language skills including, grammar, listening, speaking, writing and reading.

The topics covered this term include: □ Les Habitats

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: a white t-shirt and blue shorts, plain trainers, socks and a tape for earrings if these cannot be removed.

Homework:

All children will receive English and maths homework each week. English homework will include a reading, grammar or punctuation activity and weekly spellings (there will continue to be a spelling test each Thursday for the spellings set the previous Friday).

We also expect your child to be reading regularly at home – they need to **record in their reading record each day** to show they have read for a minimum of 10-15 minutes. Parents also need to record in the reading record **at least once a week** to show they have either read to or listened to

their child read as well as asking relevant questions about the text to help improve their child's comprehension.

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 take home test papers that need correcting or completing.

Homework will continue to be set on Fridays and needs to be handed in by the following Thursday.

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

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.

Mr Carrington

Miss Curran