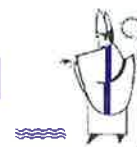




St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

Inspiring all to live, learn and love in the light of Jesus.

(cf John 8:12)



12th January, 2018



Dear Parents / Carers

Year 4 - Spring Term Curriculum Letter

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays! We hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas / New Year and are looking forward to the academic year ahead.

Year 4 Staff : Class Teachers : Mr. R. Cameron & Miss H. Benyon

Support Assistants: Mrs. K. McNally, Mrs. T. Berla, Mrs. J. Halford, Mr. S. Jones & Miss H. Ambler

Our topic this term is 'Why were the Romans so powerful and what did they do for us?'

The topic will be brought to life with a simulated Roman invasion and year group visit to Murton Park where children will have the opportunity to spend the day as a real life Roman Centurion! We will use artefacts and historical information to enhance and improve our reading, writing and history skills.

(See topic plan for full details)

In **R.E.** the topics are 'Celebrating The Mass' and 'Jesus the Saviour'.

In **Mathematics** we will be focusing on fractions, decimals and time. Please continue to support your child in learning their times tables and practising telling the time.

In **English** we will be making links to our topic on Romans. We will be writing instructions on how to survive a volcanic eruption, creating our own fact files about Roman life and writing newspaper reports.

In **Science** we will be learning about 'States of Matter'. We will identify and classify solids, liquids and gasses. We will also be exploring changing state. To support your child please encourage them to observe what makes things melt and freeze (change state).

Physical Education (P.E.) – will now be on **Thursday mornings**, so children must ensure their P.E. kits are in school ready to be worn on these days.

A P.E. kit consists of: a white t-shirt, blue (or black) shorts, and a pair of trainers for outdoor use, which they should leave in school. As an optional extra, a dark coloured pair of jogging trousers and a jumper can also be worn when we are outside. All P.E. kit must be labelled clearly with your child's name.

As always, the **only** jewellery permitted in school is a pair of plain small stud earrings. If your child has pierced ears, it would be much appreciated if you could remove their earrings on each morning of P.E. **Please note that staff are not able to remove them or cover them, so this will result in your child not taking part in our P.E. lesson and an alternative task will be provided for the child, this is due to health and safety reasons.** Long hair must be tied back.

- Please ensure your child has a P.E. kit in school at all times.

Swimming - continues to take place on **Friday mornings**.

Homework - this will be given out on a **Wednesday** and **MUST** be completed and returned to school by the following **Wednesday**.

Children will have an independent reading book which will be brought home on a daily basis and **MUST** be returned to school every day. Reading records will be given to the children for parents to fill out as and when their child reads during the week at home.

Sacrament of First Holy Communion

All children who made their reconciliation last year are now invited to complete a form at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church so they can join the First Holy Communion programme. Fr. Jonathan has the forms at the end of the weekend masses and would like them returning to him ASAP. He would also like your last stamp card if you have not already given it to him. First Holy Communion will take place this year on Saturday 22nd June at 11:00.

Year 4 Mass : Friday, 18th January for Class 4C and Friday 25th January for Class 4B. These masses will take place in the school classrooms.

KSII Celebration Assembly : Thursday, 24th January, 14:40 / Thursday, 7th February, 14:40 (fortnightly)

Holy Week Assembly : Our Holy Week assembly will be on Wednesday 10th April at 14:30.

Important Dates 2019

- **Friday mornings** - Year 4 swimming lessons
- **Friday, 1st February** - KSII Candlemas Assembly (14:15)
- **Sunday, 3rd February** – School Family Mass at Church (11:15)
- **Friday, 8th February** - Eurovision Song Contest : KSII (19:30 – 21:00)
- **Thursday, 14th February** – FofSP KSII Valentine’s Disco (18:00 – 20:00)
- **Friday, 15th February – School closed for Spring half-term holidays**
- **Monday, 25th February - School re-opens**
- **Tuesday 26th February & Wednesday 27th February** – Parent Consultations
- **Friday, 1st March** - Candlemas Assembly - KSII (14:15)
- **Wednesday, 6th March** - Ash Wednesday

Additional information will be sent out with regards to the following:

- School trips, assemblies, after school clubs, etc.

We are looking forward to a very productive and fun half term.

Thank you

Mr. R. Cameron & Miss H. Benyon
Year 4 Teachers

'An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.' Ofsted 2017

Year 4 Entry Point : Invasion

Exit Point : Trip to Murton Park (Date TBC)

Geography - As geographers we will :

- Be looking at Pompeii today and in the past
- Investigate the cause and impact of volcanic eruptions
- Locate the world's countries, with a focus on Europe and countries at risk of natural disaster
- Understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography

Computing - we will be learning how to use spreadsheets and data. Children will learn about:

- Cell locations using co-ordinates
- Different formulas for calculations
- Different types of data
- Line graphs to represent data

Design Technology – As designers we will:

- Design, make and evaluate a range of Roman products including a range of Roman weapons
- Select and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks, such as cutting, shaping, joining and finishing, accurately.
- Gain a greater understanding of health and safety when using tools

PE – As athletes we will

- Complete a unit of work using 'Dance Mats'
- Develop and perform routines
- Explore themes surrounding balance, timing and rhythm

Why were the Romans so powerful and what did they do for us ?

Music - As musicians we will :

Hand Bells

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds - echo game

Science - As scientists we will :

- Be working scientifically to study and investigate states of matter
- Identify and classify solids, liquids and gases
- Perform investigations into melting and freezing
- Draw conclusions
- Look at particles and how they behave

Art - As artists we will be focusing on the work of Spanish artist Antoni Gaudi

Children will :

- Use experiences, other subjects across the curriculum and ideas as inspiration for artwork.
- Use a range of techniques and mediums including pastels, charcoal and 3D materials.

PSHE - we will be looking at friendships and getting on with each other.

- We will focus on ourselves and why it is good to be me.
- We will be doing this through drama, reflective time in class, whole class discussions and art work.

R.E. - As theologians we will :

- Learn about the Christian Family
- Think about what it means to be part of a Christian family
- Start our Holy Communion journey
- Learn about The Mass
- Make links between actions of beliefs

English – As writers and communicators we will :

- Write instructions linking to volcano evacuation
- Write non-chronological reports (fact file)
- Create newspaper reports using direct and reported speech
- Write shape poems that convey an image/sound
- Learn how to construct a range of sentence types
- Read and listen to a wide range of styles of text
- Read and listen to whole books (Romans on the Rampage and Escape from Pompeii)
- Engage in meaningful discussions in all areas of the curriculum
- Listen to and learn a wide range of subject specific vocabulary.

Maths - As mathematicians we will :

- Find fractions of amounts
- Add and subtract fractions
- Identify equivalent fractions and decimals
- Tell the time using 24-hour, analogue and digital clocks
- Count from 0 in multiples of 7, 9 and 25 and estimate numbers
- Solve problems including fractions, decimals and time
- Continue to develop our knowledge of times table facts up to 12X12
- Continually recap previous learning through Maths Meetings

History - As historians we will :

- Research Boudica
- Investigate famous Romans
- Draw comparisons between Roman and modern life

Children will learn about :

- The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain.
- They will be able to :
 - Investigate and interpret the past
 - Understand chronology
 - Communicate historically
 - Build an overview of world history