



# St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

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

(cf John 8:12)



11<sup>th</sup> January 2019



Dear Parents / Carers

## Year 6 - 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 6 Staff :** Class Teachers: Mr. R. White, Mr. M. Keddie & Mr. D. Hutton  
Higher Level Teaching Assistant: Mrs. J. Moore  
Support Assistant: Mrs. T. Smith, Mrs. P. Halloran, Mrs. L. Bellwood  
& Mrs. J. Nash

### **Our topic this term is ... 'Why should the world be ashamed of slavery?'**

During this topic we will explore what slavery was, what it was like to be one and why it existed. In addition, we will study the links between slavery and discrimination, the people who fought against it,

Britain's involvement in the slave trade and the effect it had on society. Finally, we will create a documentary film that will present our findings with regards to knowledge, understanding and thoughts on the subject of slavery and human rights.

Our topic will allow the children to utilise many skills learnt throughout the term resulting in them creating a number of non-fiction written pieces such as journalistic writing/newspaper reports, persuasive writing, information texts and instructions. The children will also have the opportunity to use their artistic skills this term along with their designing skills to produce an artistic interpretation of their reflections on slavery linked to an award-winning artist.

*(See topic plan for full details)*

In **R.E.** we will be studying the topics 'Exploring the Mass' and 'Jesus the Messiah'. There will be further opportunities to contribute to Act of Worship sessions and fully immerse themselves in the spirituality of the school. **At home**, encourage discussions with children relating to these topics focusing on key terminology and its meaning.

In **Mathematics** we will use our Number knowledge and understanding (place value, ordering & sorting, four operations, fractions, decimals & percentages) as a foundation to build on in applying these skills to problem-solving and reasoning situations. (Further information can be found on the topic plan). Also, we will look at measure, shape and space, algebra and statistics in preparation for the end of year SAT assessments. **At home**, please encourage regular Maths games involving dice, mental calculation of numbers and money, practical use of Maths in shopping making it relevant to the real world wherever possible and finally to continue to practice and learn their **times tables** making use of the games on the '**TT Rockstar**' website.

In **English** we will firstly be focusing on the award-winning Robert Swindells' novel '**Room 13**'. It is a wonderful, spooky story about a school trip set in Whitby with good characterisation, a believable setting, humour and the ability to make the unreal seem real. The scary plot grips the reader from the opening paragraph. We will then move on to the best-selling novel, '**A Monster Calls**' by Patrick Ness which is about love, loss and hope where a child's monster isn't what it seems. The author skilfully weaves an extraordinary and heart-breaking tale of mischief, healing and above all, the courage it takes to survive. These texts will allow the children to extend their narrative writing whilst also providing excellent opportunities for non-fiction genres such as newspaper reports, persuasive writing, instructions and poems. **At home**, please encourage regular reading of fiction & non-fiction. Continue to promote the love for books and try to allow your child the opportunity to discuss the texts they've read. Through discussion at home, encourage them to develop their vocal expression in their written language, their understanding of the meaning of words and the effects they have. Remember - '**They have to be able to say it before they can write it.**'

In **Science** our topic is '**We're Evolving**' and '**Let it Shine**' (Further information can be found on the topic map). **At home**, encourage their curiosity in the world around them so that they ask questions and seek to find the answers to everyday events.

**Physical Education (P.E.)** – is on **Wednesday** and **Friday afternoons**, 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.

**Homework** will be given out each Wednesday and **MUST** be completed and returned by the following **Wednesday**. This gives the children enough time to see their class teacher if they are struggling. The purpose of this work is to consolidate the learning from class and to prepare them for more intensive homework at high school. It is therefore extremely important that this work is completed. If a child does not complete their homework without a valid reason, they will be asked to stay in and complete it at break/lunchtime. No homework three times in a half-term, a letter will go home notifying parents. 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 Confirmation**

All Year 6 children who are baptised and have made their First Holy Communion are now invited to Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church to complete an enrolment form for the Confirmation programme. Fr. Jonathan will have them at the end of Mass – 18:30 Saturday or 11:15 Sunday. The lessons will take place in school on Monday's until 16.00 from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Confirmation will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 18.30.

**Year 6 Group Assembly** : Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 14:30

**Holy Week Assembly** : Our Holy Week assembly will be Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 14:30

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

### **Important Dates 2019**

- **Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January** - Year 6 SATs Information Session for Parents (17:00 – 18:00)
- **Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> January** - Year 6 SATs Information Session for Parents (15:15 – 16:15)
- **Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> February** - KSII Candlemas Assembly (14:15)
- **Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February** – School Family Mass at Church (11:15)
- **Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> February** - Eurovision Song Contest : KSII (19:30 – 21:00)
- **Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> February** – FofSP KSII Valentine's Disco (18:00 – 20:00)
- **Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> February** – **School closed for Spring half-term holidays**
- **Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February** - **School re-opens**
- **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February & Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Parent Consultations
- **Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March** - Candlemas Assembly - KSII (14:15)

- **Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> 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. White, Mr. M. Keddie & Mr D. Hutton  
Year 6 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

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## Year 6 Entry Point: Rights & responsibilities

### Exit Point: Film documentary on slavery



#### Mathematics – As mathematicians we will :

- Consolidate and extend our knowledge and understanding of 'Number' whilst applying these skills to problem-solving and reasoning situations.
- Study properties of 'Shapes.' - draw 2D shapes, recognise, describe & build 3D shapes, compare and classify shapes (polygons).
- Recognise angles at points where they meet and find missing angles in shapes.
- Illustrate and name parts of circles (radius, diameter, circumference).
- Co-ordinates - describe positions on 4 quadrant grid. Draw, translate, & rotate shapes on the coordinate plane plus reflect them on the axes.
- Measure - Problem-solving activities that include the calculation & conversion of units of measure using decimal notation to 3 decimal places.
- Read, write & convert between standard units of length, mass, volume & time. Convert between metric and imperial units of measurement.
- Calculate the area of parallelograms & triangles.
- Statistics - Interpret & construct pie charts, line graphs and solve problems. Calculate the mean, median & mode.
- Algebra - express missing numbers, sequences, equations.
- Ratio - relative sizes of 2 quantities, sharing/grouping.

#### Design Technology – As designers we will :

- Make a plate using papier maché technique.

#### P.E. – As athletes we will :

- Develop our dance skills
- Develop our hockey skills.

#### PSHE - We will :

- Follow the 'Spiced' Drugs Programme - details to follow. Understand risks and how to manage them.
- Continue to promote school values.

## Why should the world be ashamed of slavery?



#### English – As writers and communicators we will :

- Extend our narrative writing, using the horror genre, to engage the reader by creating tension and suspense.
- Write a detailed description of a haunted setting.
- Write a set of instructions on how to destroy a monster.
- Create a newspaper article on a monster sighting.
- Use poetry to describe character's feelings & moods.



#### Science – As scientists we will look at :

##### 'We're Evolving' -

- The topic looks at how living things produce offspring that are similar in appearance, but identical to themselves, whether they are plants or animals. They should also consider how animals change over time as they adapt to their environment and this leads to longer term changes.
- Evidence of changes over long periods of time, will be built on the year 3 topic of rocks, looking at fossils.

##### 'Let it Shine' -

- This topic introduces the concept of light travelling in straight lines. It starts by looking at beams of light and how light travels to enable children to understand how we see things. This understanding is then applied to the product of shadows and starts to look at how light is reflected. The topic then takes the learning into the realm of coloured light and rainbows, using scientific skills to raise and answer questions.

#### R.E. - As theologians we will study :

##### Exploring the Mass -

- Jesus is the bread of life.
- Understand that Jesus made a New Covenant with us.
- Understand that Penitential Act and the Liturgy of the Word.
- Understand what happens at the Offertory, Consecration.
- Understand that the Eucharist is the source and summit of life.

##### Jesus then Messiah -

- Deepen our understanding of Jesus.
- Understand that Jesus is the Messiah.
- Know about the final journey Jesus made to Jerusalem.
- Know about the events of holy Thursday and reflect on the importance of these events.
- Know about the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus and reflect on their meanings.

#### History – As historians we will :

- Find out about Britain's involvement in the slave trade.
- Consider the impact of slavery on different people.
- Ask historical questions using correct terminology.
- Investigate artistic interpretations of slavery and produce our own piece of artwork.
- Create a short movie on the slave trade.
- Learn about people who helped to abolish the slave trade.
- Consider the nature of modern day slavery in the 21st century and the human rights associated with this.

#### Computing – We will :

- Promote safety - use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.
- Recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour.
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.
- Use apps to present work (iMovie, Tellagami etc.).
- Use search technologies effectively and understand computer networks including the internet. The opportunities they offer for research & collaboration.

#### Art – As artists we will :

- Learn about the 'Turner' prize winning artist, Lubaina Himid and her interpretations of slavery.
- Design and create a plate using a variety of techniques and media.



#### Global Dimensions:

These lessons are designed to help children recognise their contribution & responsibilities as citizens of our global community and equip them with the skills to make informed decisions and take responsible actions.

They will be given opportunities to: critically examine their own values and attitudes; appreciate the similarities between peoples everywhere, and value diversity; understand the global context of their local lives; and develop skills that will enable them to combat injustice, prejudice and discrimination. Such knowledge & understanding enables young people to play an active role in the global community.