



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

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

(cf John 8:12)



6th September, 2019



Dear Parents / Carers

Year 4 - Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

Welcome back after the summer holidays! We hope that you have all enjoyed your summer break and are looking forward to the academic year ahead.

Year 4 Staff : Class Teachers: Mrs. N. Scholey (4S) & Miss H. Benyon (4B)
Support Assistant: Mrs. K. McNally, Miss. H. Ambler, Mrs. L. Hibbert & Mr. R. Mallender

This term we are looking forward to lots of new and exciting things again.

Our topic this term is 'How did the Battle of Britain change World War 2?'

The topic will extend through many subject areas including literacy, history and geography.

It will particularly give children a great insight to what life was like during the Second World War.

Our topic will use many skills learnt throughout the year resulting in children *writing explanation texts to give reasons for the outbreak of war. We will use pictures, films and reports as a stimulus for describing the Blitz.* This is a very interesting topic drawing on many skills with lots of meaningful activities, giving the children a deeper understanding of this important event.

In **R.E.** the topics are 'The Bible' and 'Trust in God'. Through these topics we will be looking at and exploring the different parts of the Bible. We will look at different parables and discuss how they affect people's beliefs. We will explore the meaning of trust and discuss why at times people may find it hard to trust God. Parents are encouraged to start discussions with children relating to these topics focusing on key terminology and its meaning.

In **Mathematics** we will be focussing on basic skills, shape and problem solving (further information can be found on the topic plan). To help your children you need to provide your children with opportunities to practise their times tables, as they will be taking part in a mandatory times table test at the end of the year. Please also recap on using the four basic operations, and encourage problem solving relating to real life issues, using with money and measure as an example. We would also ask you to encourage your children to tell the time, using both analogue and digital clocks.

In **English** we will use real life and fictional stories from the war to help children develop a greater understanding of what happened and the effect this had on the people involved. We will debate the arguments for and against evacuating the children to the countryside and write letters and stories describing the experiences and feelings of evacuees. As parents / carers you can support at home by helping your child to complete homework relating to our class work and pointing out descriptive writing, encouraging discussions around why it is a good piece of writing. You could also do some research on the war with your child using the internet or your local library.

In **Science** we will be learning about sound and experimenting with different types of sound and how we can alter the way we hear them. At home children could be thinking about finding out the answers to the following questions to get them interested in the topic. Can you hear louder underwater or in the air? Do all animals have ears? If not, how do they hear? Can plants hear? Why do people talk to their plants?

Physical Education (P.E.) - is on **Monday afternoons**.

A P.E. kit consists of: a white t-shirt, blue (or black) shorts, and a pair of sports 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 / during the winter months. All P.E. kit must be labelled clearly with your child's name.

In addition, the **only** jewellery permitted in school is a pair of plain small stud earrings. If your child has pierced ears, then they need to remove their earrings on each morning of P.E.

Please note that staff are not able to remove earrings, 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.

If your child does not have their P.E. kit in school you may receive a text message to inform you that they need it for the following week.

Swimming – takes place on **Friday mornings**. Please refer to the letter you received in July for further information on what your child requires.

Homework - This will be handed out on a Friday and **MUST** be completed and returned to school by the following Friday.

Children will have an independent reading book which will be brought home on a daily basis and **MUST** be returned to school every day. Children can be reading their own independent book from home or class reading area once they have finished the given book and completed a book review. Children's independent reading books are changed once a week in school. Reading records are to be completed each time you listen to your child read at home.

Welcome Evening

St. Paulinus staff invite you to come along to our welcome evenings next week.

These sessions will give you the opportunity to speak with teachers and give you important information about the school year.

- Tuesday, 10th September - Years 2 & 3
 - Wednesday, 11th September - Years 4 & 6
 - Thursday, 12th September - Years 1 & 5
- All sessions take place, 15:30 – 16:00

If you have children in both of the year groups please chose to attend one of the meetings and there will the opportunity to visit the other class teacher once the session has ended.

Please note: Parents evening has moved to December in line with assessments in school as advised by the Department for Education so this is a good opportunity to meet your child's new class teacher.

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

- School trips, assemblies, Christmas Presentation, etc.

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The Way Forward - Paperless Communication

As you know we try very hard to keep parents regularly informed about what's going on at our school, however sending paper letters home can be rather 'hit and miss' with letters often going astray along the way.

We aim to be 'Paperless', this is beneficial both to ourselves and to you because :

- Messages will get to you reliably
- We can send messages directly to mums and dads at the same time
- You will receive important or urgent messages more effectively
- We can tell you more about what's going on within our school
- Letters will also be available to read on the school's website and the School App

If you have not already provided us with an e-mail address, please do so. If you would like to continue receiving paper copies then please contact the office OR complete the 'e-mail request form' on the School App.

Any information you provide us with will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Thank you,

Mrs. N. Scholey & Miss. H. Benyon
Year 4 Class Teachers

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Year 4 Entry Point : Eden Camp (TBC)

Exit Point : VE Day party

Geography – As geographers we will :

- Learn about the countries involved in World War II.
- Be able to identify the continents and countries of both sides on a world map.

History – As historians we will :

- Look at reasons for war breaking out.
- Consider how it affected people's everyday lives in our local area.
- Particularly focus on children who were evacuated to the countryside.

Computing – We will :

- Use software programs to develop and design updated versions of 1940s toys.
- Look at coding and how this works.

Music – As musicians we will :

- Perform songs associated with WWII in solo and choral ensemble contexts
- Accompany using tuned percussion and following notation
- Compose music to accompany Blitz Drama
- Listen to music from composers of this period – Time Line Listening

HOW DID THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN CHANGE WORLD WAR 2 ?

Science – As scientists we will :

- Identify how sounds are made and recognise they get fainter as we get further away. We will experiment with different sounds.
- Identify that animals need the correct nutrition. We will describe the way food and water move within animals. We will describe simple functions of our digestive system and identify different types of teeth.

Art – As artists we will :

- Look at the WW2 skyline and recreate this using a range of different materials.
- Plan, create and evaluate an emotive piece of artwork to portray our feelings about WWII.

R.E. – As theologians we will :

- Look at the different Bible stories and the meanings that they have for Christians.
- Discuss how the meanings of different Bible stories can form beliefs for Christians
- Explore what trust is and what it means to us.
- Look at how we can trust in God and why this can sometimes be a hard thing to do.

English – As writers and communicators we will :

- Write explanation texts to give reasons for the outbreak of war. We will use pictures, films and reports as a stimulus for describing the Blitz.
- Debate the arguments for and against evacuating the children to the countryside.
- Write letters and stories describing the experiences and feelings of evacuees.
- Use a variety of information sources to ask and answer questions.

PSHCE

- As caring citizens we will be looking at bullying and how to help those who are being bullied.
- We will also be looking at the differences between legal and illegal drugs and the risks associated with them.
- We will be learning about diversity and the importance of equality.

P.E. – As athletes we will :

- Take part in outdoor games.
- Look at the games played by children in the 1940s.
- Plan and perform a dance sequence linked to the Blitz.

Numeracy – As mathematicians we will :

- Revise our basic skills and place value. Problem solving will be ongoing throughout the term.
- Revise our times tables; this will be a focus throughout the year.
- Learn to understand and use equivalences between metric units and common imperial units such as inches, pounds and pints.
- Revise all four operations and solve problems involving measure (e.g. length, mass, volume, money) using decimal notation including scaling.
- Identify lines of symmetry in 2D shapes and recognise and describe the features of 3D shapes.

Design Technology – As designers we will :

- Look at examples of war time shelters. We will then design, make and evaluate our own Anderson shelter. We will also spend some time looking at wartime recipes.

Children's questions

- Who started the war?
- What weapons did they use?
- How many people died during the war?
- When did the war end?
- Who won the second world war?
- How long did it last for?
- Who were the enemies?
- I want to find out about D-Day.
- I want to find out about the aircraft and jets.