



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

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

(cf John 8:12)



10th January, 2020



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 : Miss H. Benyon & Mrs N. Scholey
Cover teachers (1/2 day) : Mrs. J. Moore, Mrs. C. Bentley, Miss G. Duarte
Support Assistants: Mrs. K. McNally, Mrs. L. Hibbert & Miss H. Ambler

Our topic this term is 'Why are the Rainforests important to us all?'

In this topic we will explore the Tropical Rainforests of the world. We will use artefacts and historical information to enhance and improve our reading, writing and history skills.

You can support your child's learning by helping them research Rainforests. If you do not have internet access at home, you can always use the library which will have plenty of books on the subject.

We will be learning about a wide spectrum of facts from the location of rainforests to the plants, animals and people that live in them. We will also learn about how rainforests are to survive in our modern age.

(See topic plan for full details)

In **R.E.** the topics are 'Celebrating The Mass' and 'Jesus the Saviour'. We will be looking at what it means to be a part of the Church community and what the different parts of mass mean. We will be looking at more detail at how Jesus was sent to save the world and the different miracles he performed.

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

In **English** we will be making links to our topic on Rainforests. We will learn to skim and scan non-fiction writing for relevant features. We will choose relevant information that can be used when we write non-chronological reports. We will write setting descriptions comparing rainforests with forests in the UK along with persuasive writing and diary entries.

Our **Science** links with our topic as we will be investigating living things. We will incorporate plants and animals from the Rainforest into our learning and look at how living things can be classified (mammals, amphibians etc.)

Physical Education (P.E.) – will now be on **Wednesday and Thursday 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 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.

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.
- Please ensure your child has a P.E. kit in school at all times. All P.E. kit **MUST** be labelled clearly with your child's name. If it becomes lost, it can easily be returned to the rightful owner.

Swimming - continues to take place on **Friday mornings**, until 31st January.

Homework - this will be given 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. Reading records will be given to the children for parents to fill out as and when their child reads during the week at home.

Important Dates 2020

Year 4 Mass :	Friday 17 January, 10:45 in school
KS2 Celebration Assembly :	Friday 17 January, 14:40 / Friday 28 February, 14:40 / Friday 20 March, 14:40
KS2 Candlemas Assembly	Friday 31 January, 14:15
School Family Mass @ Church :	Sunday 2 February, 11:15
Safer Internet Day :	Wednesday 5 February
KS2 Eurovision Song Contest :	Friday 7 February, 19:30 – 21:00
FofSP KS2 Valentine's Disco :	Friday 14 February, 18:00 – 21:00
St. Paulinus Anti-Bullying Day :	Wednesday 12 February
Spring Half Term Holidays :	Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February
School Re-opens :	Monday 24 February
Ash Wednesday :	Wednesday 26 February, 10:00 at church
World Book Day :	Friday 6 March (Non-Uniform / Dress up)
Mother's Day Gifts (Friends of St. Paulinus) :	Wednesday 18 March (afternoon)
Parent Consultation Evenings :	Tuesday 31 March & Wednesday 1 April
Year 4 Holy Week Assembly :	This will take place on <u>Wednesday 1 April, 14:30</u> . Further details will follow.
Easter Holidays :	Monday 6 April – Friday 17 April
Summer Half Term Holidays :	Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

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

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

If you would like a paper copy of this curriculum letter / topic plan, 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.

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

Thank you

Miss H. Benyon & Mrs. N. Scholey, 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

Why are the rainforests important to us all ?

Science - As scientists we will :

- Investigate living things
- We will look at rainforest plants and explore their requirement for growth. We will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. We will recognise that environments change and this can pose dangers to living things.
- We will set up enquiries and plan fair tests by identifying, observing and recording variables.

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.

Design Technology – As designers we will :

- Create dioramas using design criteria.
- We will select and use a range of tools and equipment relevant to the task.
- We will evaluate our dioramas against the set criteria.

PE – As athletes we will

- Complete a unit of work on dance
- Develop and perform routines
- Explore themes surrounding balance, timing and rhythm

Geography - As geographers we will :

- Use maps, atlases and ICT to locate rainforests on the world map and explore the key geographical features.
- We will develop our vocabulary relating to rainforests and understand their features.
- We will use a range of sources to help us to understand settlements and land use, economic activity and use of natural resources.
- We will explore the effect humans have on the environment.

History - As historians we will :

- Examine how the location, size and landscape of the rainforests has changed over time
- We will look at the early civilization of Ancient Mayans
- We will use our skills of investigation and interpretation and knowledge of chronology to gain an overview of the place of Mayans in world history.

Art - As artists we will :

- Develop our use of materials and increase our awareness of different kind of Art
- We will produce artwork based on that of the Kayapo Tribe of the Rainforest. We will focus on patterns and materials used by them.

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.

Music - As musicians we will :

- Study the carnival of the animals
- Focus on timbre tempo and pitch

English – As writers and communicators we will :

- Discuss the meaning of new vocabulary related to our topic.
 - We will skim and scan non-fiction writing for relevant features.
 - We will choose relevant information that can be used when we write non-chronological reports.
 - We will use paragraphs and sub-headings to present information.
 - We will write setting descriptions comparing rainforests with forests in the UK.
 - We will write persuasive writing and diary entries.
 - We will learn to speak clearly to an audience and participate in role play.
- As readers we will :
- Read and listen to a variety of texts.

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

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.