



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

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

(cf John 8:12)



18th September, 2020

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 (4NS) and Miss J. Smith (4JS)
Higher Level Teaching Assistant: Miss Ellis and Mrs Moore
Support Assistant: Mrs. J. Moore, Mrs. J. Nash, Mrs. L. Hibbert
& Miss H. Ellis

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

Our theme this term is 'World War 2'

The Autumn term theme will extend through many subject areas including English, History and Geography.

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

Our theme 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, presenting data 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 'Animals Including Humans' and 'Sound'. We will be investigating the digestive system 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 **Mondays and Fridays**.

The St. Paulinus P.E. kit consists of: a white t-shirt with the school logo, blue (or black) shorts, and a pair pumps. As an optional extra, a dark coloured pair of jogging trousers and a school P.E. hoodie or jumper can also be worn when we are outside / during the winter months.

- Children must come to school in their P.E. kit on their P.E. days and will stay in their P.E. kits throughout the day.

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. lessons and an alternative task will be provided for the child, this is due to health and safety reasons.

- Long hair **must** be tied back.
- 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.
- **Please ensure your child wears their P.E. kit on their P.E. days.** If your child does not come to school in their P.E. kit, you may receive a text message to inform you that they need it for the following week. All P.E. kit and school uniform **must** be labelled clearly with your child's name. If it becomes lost, it can then be easily returned to the rightful owner.

Swimming – normally takes place on **Friday mornings** but due to the current situation children will not be going swimming this half term. We will send a letter to parents as soon as we are informed that lessons will recommence.

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

Reading - 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.

As we are unable to have a Welcome Evening this year, if you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's class teacher via email: y4@stpaulinus.org or by contacting the school office and arranging a telephone appointment.

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

'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

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 and Miss. J. Smith
Year 4 Class Teachers

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Year 4 :

WORLD WAR II

French – As linguists we will :

- Look at describing my family in French.
- Learn how to say the parts of the body in French.

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.

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.

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.

Music – exploring a classic Pop song we will :

- Learn the different parts of the song and learn some instrumental parts to play alongside it.
- Explore the differences and similarities between pop songs from different years.
- Explore different ways to find the pitch and move to the rhythm of music.
- Use instruments to accompany the song and there will be multiple performance opportunities.

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.

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.
- Revise all four operations and solve problems involving measure (e.g. length, mass, volume, money) using decimal notation including scaling.
- Interpret and present data.

Computing – We will :

- Consider our online profile and how to keep safe online
- Look at coding and how this works.

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.

How did the Battle of Britain change World War 2?