



# St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

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

(cf John 8:12)



18<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## Year 6 - 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 6 Staff :** Class Teachers: Mr. D. Hutton (6H), Mr. R. Cameron (6C)  
and Miss G. Duarte (Tues & Wed)  
Support Assistants: Mrs. T. Smith, Mrs. P. Halloran and Mr. S. Jones

Year 6 acts as a transition year between primary and secondary education, so there are several members of staff working with the children in a variety of subjects, similar to Year 7 onwards.

**Our theme this term is 'Journeys'. We have a Geographical theme this half-term is ... 'Maps, maps and more maps' and a Historical theme of 'Vikings' next half term.**

Linked to our English focus on journeys people make today and did make in the past. We will study our ever changing world in more detail and our own place within it. In addition, we will study how to use a compass, maps (including grid references and symbols), globes, different time zones and 'Google Earth' to locate human and physical features.

*(See curriculum plan for full details)*

In **R.E.** we will be exploring 'The Kingdom of God' (What it is? God's invitation, Jesus' Miracles etc.) and 'Called to Serve' (We are all God's disciples, gifts from God, sacraments etc.). There will be an opportunity to contribute to Act of Worship sessions and fully immerse themselves in the spirituality of the school. **At home**, encourage discussions with your child relating to these topics focusing on key terminology and its meaning.

In **Mathematics** - we will be focussing on 'Number' - place value, ordering, rounding, and four number operations and how the various methods can be used to solve reasoning problems. Fractions, Decimals and Percentages (Further information can be found on the topic plan). **At home**, please encourage regular Maths games involving dice, mental calculation of numbers and money, practical use of Maths in shopping and especially make it relevant to the real world. Finally, to continue to practice and learn their **times tables** making use of the games on the 'TT Rockstar' website.

In **English** - we will be focusing on three books linked by the theme 'Journeys.' Firstly, our opening book is 'Oranges in no Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird which is the moving story of a young girl trying to help her family amid the crisis of a civil war. Next, we will look at 'The Journey' (Francesca Sanna) about refugees having to flee their war-torn country. Finally, we will study 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. It is a wonderful picture book that allows the children to drive the narrative through a variety of genres such as, narratives, diaries, newspaper reports, stories and poems. **At home**, please encourage regular reading of fiction and non-fiction. Promote a love of books and try to allow your child to be given the opportunity to discuss the texts. Through discussion at home, encourage them to develop their vocal expression in their written language. 'They have to be able to say it before they can write it.'

In **Science** - our topics are '**Animals including Humans**' and '**Let it Shine**' (Further information can be found on the curriculum 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.)** - will take place in both classes on **Thursday** and **Friday afternoons**, so under the new guidelines, **children must come to school in their P.E. kits** ready for lessons.

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.

**Homework** – All homework will be given out on Mondays to be completed in their homework book. **Spellings** will be given out on **Mondays to learn for Friday's test. English** (reading comprehension and/or grammar & punctuation task) and **Maths** will be handed out the same day and **MUST** be completed and **returned by the Friday** of that same week. This gives the children enough time to see their class teacher if they are struggling plus we realise the importance of having family time at the weekend.

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. Any children who fail to bring/complete their homework will have to complete it during their playtime. If a child does not complete their homework three times in a half-term a letter will go home.

**Reading** - Children will have an independent reading book which will be brought home. It must be returned to school once read. Children can be reading their own independent book from home or school library/class reading area once they have finished the given book and completed a book review.

Children's independent reading books are changed as and when required in school. It is your child's responsibility to make sure a member of staff in class is aware that the book needs changing. Reading records are to be completed each time you listen to your child read at home. Equally, your child can complete the record by mentioning the pages read and whether they have enjoyed it or not.

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: [y6@stpaulinus.org](mailto:y6@stpaulinus.org) or by contacting the school office and arranging a telephone appointment.

*'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

## 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

Mr. D Hutton and Mr. R. Cameron  
Year 6 Class Teachers



**R.E.** – As theologians we will:

**The Kingdom of God**

- Learn about the Kingdom of God and reflect on its meaning.
  - To understand everyone is invited to God's Kingdom.
  - Reflect on ways to share this 'Good News'.
  - Reflect on words and actions necessary to show commitment to the Kingdom.
  - Know that Jesus' miracles reflected his compassion for others.
  - Study people who spread the word of God.
- Called to Serve**
- Understand that we are all called to be disciples.
  - Recognise that God has given us gifts & talents to use.
  - Understand what the Sacrament of Confirmation, marriage and Holy Orders does for us.
  - Understand how some people responded to God's call .

**Computing** – As web developers we will:

- Become familiar with various programming and software, such as pod casts and animation to highlight the importance of e-safety.

**Art** – As artists we will make:

- Detailed, analytical, observational drawings.
- Study the methods/media of famous portrait artists.

**P.E.** – As gymnasts we will:

- Use variations in speed, level and direction and learn how to combine & link actions to produce sequences.

**Global Dimension** - We will:

- Research & investigate the history of immigration in the UK and how it has impacted the economy, culture, etc.

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

- Develop our narrative 'story' writing using the books 'Oranges in No Man's Land, The Journey & 'The Arrival' as stimulus and inspiration.
- Write a recount of a character's experiences.
- Write different types of poems based on journeys / how things survive.
- Write a newspaper report based on book events.

As readers, we will develop comprehension skills studying plot, characters, events, vocabulary use & author's intent.

**Mathematics** – As mathematicians we will :

- Perform mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers.
- Read, write, compare and order numbers up to ten million, identifying the value of each digit.
- Round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000.
- Explore negative numbers in context and through abstract examples.
- Use knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the four operations in problem solving activities.
- Use the formal written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication (including X by 2-digit numbers) and division (including long division).
- Investigate factors, multiples, prime, square and cubed numbers.
- Simplify compare and order fractions.
- Add and subtract; multiply and divide fractions.
- Reflect and translate shapes across four quadrants.

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

- Develop our knowledge, understanding and skills of the designing and making processes through a variety of creative and practical activities including model Viking boats and baking bread.

**French** - As linguists we will:

- Develop our knowledge of ordering foods in French.
- Learn to read and write traditional French stories.

**Music** - As musicians we will:

- Listen to and appraise songs as well as perform and share pieces of music.

**Science** – As scientists we will learn:

**Animals including humans:**

- To recognise the parts of the circulatory system.
- To understand the function of some of the parts of the circulatory system.
- To understand the need for a healthy balanced diet.
- To explain the effect of drugs on the body.

**Let it Shine:**

- To study the concept of light travelling in straight lines.
- Look at beams of light and how light travels to enable us to understand how we see things.
- Apply this understanding to the product of shadows and starts to look at how light is reflected.
- Investigate the realm of coloured light and rainbows, using scientific skills to raise and answer questions.

**History** - As historians, we will study the 'Vikings':

- The struggle between the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons for the Kingdom of England.
- Who were they and what did we learn from them.
- Viking raids , what areas they invaded and why?
- Viking long ships and culture.

**Geography** – As geographers we will study the following areas through the theme '**Maps, Maps and more Maps**' while developing our knowledge about the wider world:

- To know, name and use the eight points of a compass.
- To use 4 and 6 figure grids references.
- To develop knowledge and understanding of Ordnance survey maps and what they are used for.
- To be able to use ordnance survey maps.
- To use Google Earth to locate a country or place of interest and to follow the journey of rivers etc.
- To know about time zones and to work out time differences across the world (including night and day).

**PSHE** - We will study:

**How we can keep healthy as we grow:**

- A range of activities that focus on our mental and physical health
- Creating positive friendships.
- Making the right choices for a healthy lifestyle.