



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary Academy

Part of the Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Academy

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

(cf John 8:12)



27th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Year 6 - Spring Term Curriculum Letter



Now that the New Year is well underway and your children are enjoying lots of exciting learning, here is all the information for the Spring Term.

Year 6 Staff:	Class Teachers:	Mr. D. Hutton (6H) & Miss J. Smith (6S)
	Educational Teaching Assistants:	Mrs T. Smith, Mrs C. McGee & Mrs L. Harrison
	French Teacher:	Miss S. Juan

In **Religious Education (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 knowledge and understanding of number & place value and the four operations (+, -, X and ÷) as a foundation to build on when applying these skills to problem-solving and reasoning situations. (Further information can be found on the topic plan). We will also look at fractions, decimals, percentages, converting units of measure, ratio and geometry 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 Shaun Tan picture book '*The Arrival*'. It examines what drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless, and the future is unknown. This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey. '*The Arrival*' has become one of the most critically acclaimed books of recent years, a wordless masterpiece that describes a world beyond any familiar time or place. 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 recounts, instructions and poetry.

In our Guided Reading (Book Talk) lessons, we will use two more award-winning texts, '*The Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*' by Louis Sachar and '*The Boy who made everyone laugh*' by Helen Rutter to further develop our comprehension skills such as predicting and summarising the plot, inferencing, comparing and contrasting different texts, analysing the author's use of language and the affects it has on the reader.

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 learning will focus on 'Evolution and Inheritance' then 'Scientists and Inventors' (Further information can be found on the curriculum plan).

At home, encourage their curiosity in the world around them so that they ask questions and seek to find the answers to everyday events.

Our **History** theme this half term is 'Ancient Greece'. We will study a range of key topics such as democracy, the Olympics, the Battle of Marathon, Greek Gods and Goddesses as well as the Trojan War. We will learn to place events in chronological order, study a range of primary and secondary sources and understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.

Next half term in **Geography**, our theme is 'North and South America'. We will locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (highlighting the UK) and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics. We will examine geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom and a location within North or South America. We will also extend our geographical terminology and map-reading skills.

Physical Education (P.E.) - under the new guidelines, **children must come to school in their P.E. kits** ready for lessons. Our P.E. days will take place on **Mondays and Thursdays**.

- The St. Paulinus P.E. kit consists of:
 - a plain white t-shirt with or without the school logo (no brands or patterns),
 - plain black or dark grey shorts / jogging bottoms or leggings (no brands or patterns),
 - grey school hoodie with the school logo,
 - Trainers or a pair of pumps.
- In addition, the **only** jewellery permitted in school is a pair of plain small stud earrings. If your child has pierced ears, these need to be removed on each morning of P.E. for health and safety reasons.

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 wears their PE kit on their P.E. days.** 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 – Spellings will also 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.

'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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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. We will change your child's book once a week. Please remember to write in your child's reading record to acknowledge that you have listened to your child read. It is also very important to check your child understands when reading. Finally, please remember to access Bug Club.

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 any questions or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher via email: Year6@stpaulinus.org or by contacting the school office and arranging a telephone appointment.

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.

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

Mr. D. Hutton & Miss J. Smith
Year 6 Teachers

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Important Dates 2023

Year 6 SATs Parents Information:	Tuesday 24 January, 17:00
Time to Talk Day :	Thursday 2 February
KS2 Candlemas:	Thursday 2 February, 14:00 (Parents Invited)
NPSCC Number Day:	Friday 3 February (50p donation / Non-Uniform Day)
Eurovision:	Friday 3 February (Non-Uniform Day)
Children's Mental Health Week:	Monday 6 February – Friday 10 February
Safer Internet Day:	Tuesday 7 February
KS2 Valentine's Disco	Friday 10 February, 18:00 – 20:00 @ Parochial Hall
Spring Half Term Holidays :	Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February

School Re-opens: Monday 20 February

Shrove Tuesday:	Tuesday 21 February
Ash Wednesday:	Wednesday 22 February
Year 6 Lenten Bun Sale:	Friday 24 February
World Book Day:	Thursday 2 March (Non-Uniform / Dress up)
Mother's Day:	Sunday 19 March

Holy Week in School:

- **EYFS Palm Sunday** Tuesday 28 March, 09:30
- **Year 3 Palm Sunday** Tuesday 28 March, 14:00
- **Year 1 Zacchaeus** Wednesday 29 March, 09:30
- **Year 4 Last Supper** Wednesday 29 March, 14:00
- **Year 2 Last Supper** Thursday 30 March, 09:30
- **Year 6 Agony in the Garden** Thursday 30 March, 14:00
- **Year 5 Stations of the Cross** Friday 31 March, 09:30 / Repeated at 14:00

Easter Holidays: Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April

School Re-opens: Monday 17 April

King's Coronation: Monday 8 May

Summer Half Term Holidays: Monday 29 May – Monday 5 June

Inset Day: Monday 5 June

School Re-opens: Tuesday 6 June

Father's Day: Sunday 18 June

Last day: Friday 21 July

More dates / info to be added, please check up-coming newsletters

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Year 6

Spring Term Curriculum Overview

Mathematics – As mathematicians we will :

- Learn how to order and compare, convert, add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions.
- Understand the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.
- Recognise angles at points where they meet and find missing angles in shapes.
- Co-ordinates - describe positions on 4 quadrant grid. Draw, translate, & rotate shapes on the co-ordinate 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.
- Ratio - relative sizes of 2 quantities, sharing/grouping.
- Calculate and compare percentages of amounts.
- Draw a range of geometric shapes using given dimensions and angles.
- Describe, draw, translate and reflect shapes on a co-ordinate plane.

French – As linguists we will :

- Study a French traditional tale le lièvre et la tortue.
- Write own traditional tale in French.
- Compare French and English School routines.

RPSHE - 'Living in the Wider World'. We will learn about how the media can influence people:

- Media Literacy.
- Digital Resilience.
- Influences and decision-making.
- Online safety.
- Pol.Ed—Managing Stress.



English – As writers, readers and communicators we will :

- Extend our fictional writing, using the acclaimed visual narratives 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan and 'Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness to develop character descriptions, settings etc. Write a recount of a character's experiences and write different types of poems.
- Develop our reading fluency and understanding (comprehension skills) using the award-winning texts (**The Boy in the Girls' Bathroom & The Boy who made everyone laugh**) analyzing the plot, characters, events taking place, vocabulary used, its desired effects& author's intent.

Science – As scientists we will look at :

'Evolution & Inheritance' - This unit is designed to help you learn about the history of organisms (animals and plants) and how they need to adapt to survive. From Darwin's theory of natural selection, to genetic modification and cloning today, you will gain an understanding of how inheritance and genetics works. You will also gain an understanding of what history tells us, such as fossils and geology.

'Scientists and Inventors' - Children will learn about the life and work of Stephen Hawking, and carry out an investigation into Hawking's theories on black holes. They will learn about Libbie Hyman, a zoologist whose work on invertebrates informs much of what we know about the characteristics and classification of these creatures. Children will look at the effects of cholesterol on the heart and blood vessels in the footsteps of Marie Maynard Daly. Children will find out about Alexander Fleming and his discovery of penicillin, and will interpret data in a scatter graph to come to a conclusion about the effects of penicillin. They will look at the evidence for human evolution, and will learn about Mary Leakey and her role in finding significant fossil evidence, and what her fossils prove about evolution. Children will explore the circulatory system and find out about the medical, and social, advancements made by Dr Daniel Hale Williams. Finally, children will find out about the life and work of Steve Jobs, and his development of new electronics and technologies.

Geography – We will study **North & South America**:

- To know the names of and locate a number of North or South American countries.
- To describe the environmental regions, climate zones, vegetation belts, key human and physical features, countries and major cities of North and South America.
- To focus on a specific country/region and study the similarities and differences between living there and the UK.
- To describe and understand types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water.

P.E. – As athletes we will :

- Develop our accuracy through Dodgeball.
- Develop our physical and mental wellbeing through Yoga.

History – As historians we will be studying 'Ancient Greece':

- Study a range of key topics & events such as democracy, the Olympics, the Battle of Marathon, Greek Gods and Goddesses as well as the Trojan War. We will learn to place events in chronological order, study a range of primary and secondary sources and understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.



Computing – We will study spreadsheets & text adventures.

- Exploring probability.
- Use of spreadsheets in 'real life'.
- Use a spreadsheet to plan pocket money spending.
- Planning a school event.
- Plan, make and code text based adventure games.

Art - As artists we will:

- Make detailed, analytical, observational drawings.
- Investigate & use portrait imaginary using methods and techniques of famous artists (Matisse, Picasso & Van Gogh)

Design Technology – As designers we will :

- **Mechanisms** - Pulleys and gears: eg. a toy with moving parts, shop display, fairground with various rides etc.

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 the 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.