



The Blessed
Peter Snow
Catholic Academy Trust



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary Academy

Part of the Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Academy Trust

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

(cf John 8:12)



13th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Autumn Term Curriculum Letter



Year 4 Staff : Class Teachers: Mrs B. Irving/Mrs N. Scholey & Miss L. Hall (4H)
Higher Level Teaching Assistants: Miss. H. Ellis & Mrs. K. McNally
Support Assistants: Mrs. S. Crossland, Mrs Harrison and Mrs Berla

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

Our topics this term are 'The Tudors' & 'The UK'.

(See topic plan for full details)

During the first half term, in **History**, we will discover how the Tudors came to rule and explore Henry VIII's lifestyle as a significant figure. We will learn how the Church of England was formed and compare how school life changed for pupils during the Tudor period.

During the second half term, in **Geography**, we will look at where the UK is located, naming some of the counties and cities in the UK and locating key features such as hills and rivers. We will also look at how the UK has changed over time and compare a region in the UK to a region in Europe, explaining the geographical similarities and differences.

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 recap and add to our knowledge of place value, looking at four-digit numbers and rounding to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000. We will then add and subtract four-digit numbers, exploring different methods and deciding what operations to use when solving problems. The focus will then turn to multiplication and division where we will solve further problems and learn new methods including the distributive law. We will build up to using our knowledge to multiply and divide mentally. We will then interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and time graphs. To help your child you need to provide them 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, with money and measure for example. We would also ask you to encourage your children to tell the time, using both analogue and digital clocks.

In **English** we will be using the novels 'Varjak Paw' and 'Children of Winter' to drive our learning. We will practise writing in a range of genres including narratives and non-chronological reports. We will also have a weekly grammar / punctuation focus as well as our weekly spelling tests. 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.

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In **Science** we will begin by learning about 'Animals Including Humans'. We will consider why our teeth are different shapes and understand that they have different functions. We will learn the basic parts of the digestive system and begin to understand their functions. We will then explore what electricity is and how it is used in our daily lives. We will study where electricity comes from and how it travels. There will be plenty of investigations in this unit of work as we will be exploring how we can change the flow of electricity and what happens when we change different components in a circuit.

In **RPSHE** we will explore self-esteem and self-worth through recognising our personal qualities and individuality, identifying positive things about ourselves, and recognising our achievements. We will look at setting goals for ourselves and how we can achieve these and also how we can manage when there are set backs and learn from our mistakes. We will then explore how we can treat each other with respect and the link between rights and responsibilities. Our Pol-Ed learning will help us explore feelings, the intensity of these, coping with them and how they can vary. We will look at the features of healthy family life and link this to our learning on respect.

Physical Education (P.E.) – Wednesdays and Thursdays

Under the new guidelines, **children must come to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days, ready for lessons.** Please may we take this opportunity to kindly remind all families that the school P.E. kit is uniform and that pupils should not come to school in clothes that do not form the school P.E. kit.

- 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.
- All P.E. kit (including 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.
- **Please ensure your child wears their P.E. kit on their P.E. days.**

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

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. Your child will read as much as possible in school to an adult on a weekly basis. Children can be reading their own independent book from home or class reading area once they have finished their given book. Children's independent reading books are changed once a week in school. 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's understanding when reading, so please ask them questions about what they have read.

Timetables and Spellings - The children will have a list of ten spellings which will be tested on a Friday. Timetables are very important in Year 4 and should be practised as often as possible. The children can access TimesTable Rockstars (using their individual log in) to support them with these. Timetables will also be practised and tested in school during the week.

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Upcoming Events 2023

October	School will be carrying out various activities for Black History Month
Tuesday 10 October	World Mental Health Day
Tuesday 10 October	St. Paulinus Day
Wednesday 11 October	Children's flu vaccination day (only for those whose parents have signed up for the programme)
Friday 13 October	Non-Uniform Day : Come dressed in fancy dress for "Fun Run" day
Friday 20 October	School photography day
Friday 20 October, 14:30	EYFS and KS1 Celebration Assembly – you will receive a text message if your child is due to receive an award.
Tuesday 24 October, 09:00 – 10:00	Coffee and chat session with Debby Murphy: all parents welcome. Debby can help with a wide range of things to help you as adults – this can be things to do with your child but also things to do with life outside of school and being a parent.
Wednesday 25 October	Harvest Festival day – parents invite – this year we are collecting donations to give to our local foodbank. You can send them in at any point this week ready for our presentations. 09:15 – EYFS & KS1 Harvest Festival 14:00 – KS2 Harvest Festival
Friday 27 October	Last day of term – normal finish time
Friday 27 October, 18:00 – 20:00	FoSP EYFS & KS1 Halloween Disco
Autumn Half Term Holidays :	Monday 30 October – Monday 6 November (inclusive)
School Closed / Inset Day:	Monday 6 November
School Re-opens:	Tuesday 7 November
W/C Tuesday 7 November	St Paulinus will be celebrating Interfaith and multicultural week in school
Tuesday 7 November & Wednesday 8 November	Parents evening – Please sign up to your 10-minute parents evening slot. As we have over the last couple of years, we are offering a face-to-face appointment or a telephone consultation –
Friday 10 November, 09:00	KS2 Celebration Assembly - you will receive a text message if your child is due to receive an award.
W/C 13 November	St Paulinus will be celebrating Anti-bullying week and Road Safety week
Friday 17 November, 14:30	EYFS and KS1 Celebration Assembly – you will receive a text message if your child is due to receive an award.
Thursday 23 November, 09:00 – 10:00	Coffee and chat session with Debbie Murphy: all parents are welcome. Debbie can help with a wide range of things to help you as adults – this can be things to do with your child but also things to do with life outside of school and being a parent.
Friday 24 November, 09:00	KS2 Celebration Assembly - you will receive a text message if your child is due to receive an award.

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Friday 1 December, 14:30	EYFS and KS1 Celebration Assembly – you will receive a text message if your child is due to receive an award.
Saturday 2 December, 13:00 – 16:00	St. Paulinus Church Christmas Fair
Sunday 3 December	First Sunday of Advent
Friday 8 December	Friends of St Paulinus – Christmas Fayre all afternoon
Tuesday 12 December, 09:30	EYFS Nativity
Wednesday 13 December, 14:00	Year 1 and 2 Nativity
Thursday 14 December, 09:00 – 10:00	Coffee and chat session with Debbie Murphy: all parents are welcome. Debbie can help with a wide range of things to help you as adults – this can be things to do with your child but also things to do with life outside of school and being a parent.
Thursday 14 December (Time TBC)	Years 3, 4 and 5 Christmas Service
Friday 15 December, 09:00	KS2 Celebration Assembly - you will receive a text message if your child is due to receive an award.
Tuesday 19 December, 14:00	Year 6 Christmas Production
Wednesday 20 December, 13:30	Mince pies and carols for grandparents and parishioners
Thursday 21 December	Christmas Dinner day / Christmas Jumper day / Chocolate raffle day
Friday 22 December	Last day of term with an early finish
Christmas Holidays:	Monday 25 December – Monday 8 January (inclusive)
School Re-opens:	Tuesday 9 January 2024

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 'Request for Paper letters' 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.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher via email: year4@stpaulinus.org or by contacting the school office and arranging a telephone appointment.

Thank you,

Mrs N Scholey, Mrs B Irving & Miss. L. Hall
Year 4 Teachers

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English – As writers and communicators we will :

- Base our writing around 'Varjak Paw' and 'Children of Winter'.
- Write for a range of purposes and audiences.
- Write in the role of a character, inferring their thoughts and feelings using evidence from the text.
- Write a setting description using what we have learnt in the book.
- Be able to answer comprehension questions about the books.
- Gather facts and information and use these to create a non-chronological report.
- Empathise with the different characters we come across.
- Recap on the fundamental skills of writing such as punctuation, capital letters and word classes.

Year 4: The Tudors & The UK Autumn Term Curriculum Overview

Art - As artists we will :

- Describe Henry VIII's lifestyle by focusing on the work of Henry Matisse and Francis Bacon.
- Explore how African prints are made and design our own.
- Explore the method of collage and create our own using inspiration from different artists.

Design Technology – As designers we will:

- Evaluate existing products for their audience and purpose.
- Create a range of different switches.
- Learn how to create simple circuits and be able to find faults in them.
- Create our own plan for a product with an intended purpose and audience.
- Create our own illuminated sign.

Computing – We will :

- Consider our online profile and how to keep safe online.
- Consider the effects of plagiarism.
- Identify the positive and negative influences of technology on health.
- Learn how to search effectively.

History - As historians we will :

- Explain how the Tudors came to rule.
- Describe Henry VIII's lifestyle.
- Explore how the Church of England was formed.
- Compare how school life changed for pupils during the Tudor period.

R.E. – As theologians we will :

- Focus on the Biblical figures Abraham, Moses, David, Joseph and Jonah.
- Explore the importance of the Bible, how it is divided into Testaments and the different types of writing it contains.
- 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, making links to Mary and Joseph and the Christmas story.

Music – We will:

- Demonstrate an understanding and appropriate use of musical language.
- Identify and describe feelings as they relate to music.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the musical style and a broader understanding of the cultural and historical connections of the music.

Science – As scientists we will :

- Identify and locate the main organs of the human digestive system.
- To explain how the human digestive system works.
- To identify the different types of human teeth and explain their functions.
- Explain the structure of a tooth.
- Explain how we can look after our teeth.
- Interpret food chains and explain what they show.
- Construct food chains, identifying the producers, predators and prey.

PE – As athletes we will :

- Learn the key components of gymnastics.
- Create and perform our own gymnastic routines.
- Learn the rules and skills needed for tag rugby.

French – As linguists we will :

- Count from 1 to 40 and complete simple calculations.
- Say the months of the year and when our birthdays are.
- Discuss our families, what they look like and how they act.

Mathematics– As mathematicians we will :

- Revise our basic skills and place value; focusing on 4-digit numbers. Problem solving will be ongoing.
- Revise all four operations and be able to add and subtract 4-digit numbers.
- Revise all four operations and solve problems involving measure (e.g. length, mass, volume, money) using decimal notation including scaling.
- Revise our times tables; this will be a focus throughout the year.
- Interpret and present data.

RPSHE– we will:

- Explore self-esteem through recognising our personal qualities and individuality.
- Look at setting goals for ourselves and how we can achieve these.
- Learn strategies to help us manage when there are set-backs .
- Explore different behaviours and how to respond to them.
- Learn about the relationship between rights and responsibilities.