



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)



13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

## Autumn Term Curriculum Letter

**Year 6 Staff:** Class Teachers: Mr. D. Hutton (6H), Miss Smith (6S)  
Teaching Assistants: Miss T. Smith, Mrs. C. McGee, Mr. S Jones, Miss V. Hart  
French Teacher: Miss S. Juan



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.

**This first half-term is a historical theme – ‘World War II’ with a geographical theme the following half-term, ‘Maps, Maps, Maps’.**

Our History is linked to our English focus on evacuees (Goodnight Mister Tom). We will study this specific period of history and its effect on Britain, the events that took place leading up to the outbreak of war and during the conflict, its immediate impact on our country as a whole and how it influenced the future of Britain and the wider world.

In Geography, 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 ‘*Justice*’ (What is justice? How can we prevent injustice? Why have people been persecuted for speaking out against injustice? 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, then **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 in the Autumn term. The first is linked to our historical theme (WW2), the children’s classic ‘*Goodnight Mister Tom*’ by Michelle Magorian. The story of neglected 8 year old evacuee William Beech who is sent to live in the heart of the English countryside in the quiet village of Little Weirwold during the Second World War. In the care of Mister Tom, an elderly recluse, he experiences a new life of loving and care. In the second half term, we will be studying ‘*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. Then we will look at ‘*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,

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diaries, newspaper reports, stories and poems. **At home**, please encourage regular reading of fiction & 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 '**Light** and '**Electricity**' (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.) – Thursdays and Fridays**

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** – 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 a 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's understanding when reading. Finally, please remember to access Oxford Owl.

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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
<b>Autumn Half Term Holidays :</b>	<b>Monday 30 October – Monday 6 November (inclusive)</b>
<b>School Closed / Inset Day:</b>	<b>Monday 6 November</b>
<b>School Re-opens:</b>	<b>Tuesday 7 November</b>
W/C Tuesday 7 November	St Paulinus will be celebrating Interfaith and multicultural week in school
Tuesday 7 November & Wednesday 8 November	<b>Parents evening</b> – 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
<b>Christmas Holidays:</b>	<b>Monday 25 December – Monday 8 January (inclusive)</b>
<b>School Re-opens:</b>	<b>Tuesday 9 January 2024</b>

### 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: [year6@stpaulinus.org](mailto:year6@stpaulinus.org) or by contacting the school office and arranging a telephone appointment.

Thank you

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

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# Year 6 Autumn Term Curriculum Overview

## French – As linguists we will:

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

## R.E. – As theologians we will:

### The Kingdom of God

- Learn about the Kingdom of God and reflect on its meaning.
- 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.

### Justice

- Understand the meaning of justice and know we are all called to work for justice.
- Learn about some people who have been persecuted for speaking out about injustice.
- Know that Advent is a time when we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.
- Know about the mystery of the incarnation.

## Computing – As coders we will:

- Use code to plan and create our own games.
- Explore functions and flowcharts.

## Art – As artists we will:

- Study the work of Patrick Heron and Patrick Caulfield.
- Create our own interpretations of their styles and explore Cubism.

## P.E. (Rugby / Gymnastics) – As athletes we will:

- Learn how to evade opponents, use the correct technique when passing, discuss tactics and play attack vs defence games.
- Learn how to use balance and coordination to develop core strength.

## 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.

## History - As historians, we will study 'World War II':

- Why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved.
- Learn about evacuation.
- Examine what it was like to live with food rationing and explore the contribution made by women to the war effort.
- Learn important facts about the Holocaust and investigate events that were key turning points in the war, such as the Battle of Britain and the German invasion of Russia.
- Develop a good knowledge of chronology and understand how past events have helped to shape the world we know today.

## RPSHE - We will study the 'Life Skills' Drugs, Alcohol & Resilience programme.

- A range of activities that focus on our mental and physical health.
- Creating positive friendships and positive decision making.
- Making the right choices, staying safe & healthy.
- Managing stress, peer pressure, building support networks.

## Design Technology – As designers we will focus on 'FOOD'

- Knowledge & understanding of food hygiene, nutrition, healthy eating and a varied diet. Also we will develop a range of techniques (i.e. measuring & prepping ingredients) in food technology.

## Global Dimension - We will:

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

## Science – As scientists we will learn:

### Light

- What light is, where it comes from and how it travels.
- What refraction is and to investigate how refraction changes the direction in which light travels.
- Why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

### Electricity

- Function of electrical components and their symbols.
- Investigate the effect of changing the number of cells or bulbs in a circuit.

## English – As writers and communicators we will:

- Develop our narrative 'story' writing (using 'Goodnight Mister Tom', 'Oranges in No Man's Land, and 'The Arrival') as stimulus and inspiration i.e. character descriptions and varied settings.
- Write an informal letter and a recount of a character's experiences.
- Write different types of poems (haiku, cinquain, acrostic) based on the themes in our class reads.
- Write a newspaper (journalistic writing) report based on book events.

## As readers, we will:

- Develop our reading fluency and understanding (comprehension skills) of a variety of award-winning texts analyzing the plot, characters, events taking place, vocabulary use and its desired effects & author's intent.

## Geography – As geographers we will:

- 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).

## Music - As musicians we will:

- Listen to and appraise different styles of music, play instruments and sing songs around the theme 'How music brings us together'.  
Compose, rehearse and perform pieces of music.