



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)



1st February 2024



Dear Parents / Carers

Year 4 - 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 4 Staff : Class Teachers: Miss L. Hall (4H) & Mrs B Irving & Mrs N Scholey (4SI)
Higher Level Teaching Assistant: Miss H. Ellis & Mrs. K. McNally
Educational Teaching Assistants: Mrs. T. Berla, Mrs L Harrison & Mrs. S. Crossland

In **Religious Education (RE)** we will be studying the topics of 'Celebrating The Mass' and 'Jesus the Saviour'. We will be looking at what it means to be a part of the Church community and what the different parts of mass mean. We will be looking at more detail at how Jesus was sent to save the world and the different miracles he performed.

In **Mathematics** we will be focusing on securing multiplication facts, fractions, time, decimals, area and perimeter. Please continue to support your child in learning their times tables and practising telling the time. Please encourage your children to access TTRockstars to develop their times table skills as we prepare for the multiplication check at the end of the year. In school we are completing daily TTRockstars practise along with a weekly multiplication check.

In **English** we will be reading 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' and discussing and emphasising with the characters in the novel. We will write diary entries, character descriptions and a setting description. 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 China with your child using the internet or by visiting your local library.

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 first area of learning is 'States of Matter'. We will identify and classify solids, liquids and gas. We will also be exploring changing states. We will identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle. We will also study 'Sound' and explore how sounds are made and travel to our ears. We will find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations.

In our **History** lessons, we will explore the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China. You can support your child's learning by helping them research China. If you do not have internet access at home, you can always use the library which will have plenty of books on the subject. We will be learning about a wide spectrum of facts from the Ancient China including Shang royal burials, what ordinary life was like and how the calendar was created.

'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

TEMPLE ROAD, DEWSBURY, WEST YORKSHIRE, WF13 3QE

Tel: (01924) 488282

E-mail: office@stpaulinus.org

Website: www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk

Next half term in **Geography**, our focus will be on Geographical skills. We will explore the use of a compass and how this is used to navigate. We will develop our understanding of maps, symbols and keys as well as using simple co-ordinates when working with maps of the UK. We will also compare an area of Europe, the UK and an area in North America, before creating our own map.

Physical Education (P.E.) - under the established guidelines, **children must come to school in their P.E. kits** ready for lessons. Our P.E. day will take place on **Wednesdays 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 PE 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 - 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. 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.

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.

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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.

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 half term.

Thank you

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

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Year 4:

The Shang Dynasty

- English** – As writers and communicators we will :
- Be writing diary entries based around the novel 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'
 - Emphasise with the characters from the book.
 - Write character descriptions of the different characters we are introduced to throughout the story
 - Write a setting description of China.

R.E.

- As theologians we will :
- Learn about the Christian Family.
 - Think about what it means to be part of a Christian family.
 - Start our Holy Communion journey.
 - Learn about The Mass.
 - Make links between actions of beliefs.

RPSHE

- we will:
- Explain how everyday things can affect feelings.
 - Discuss how feelings change overtime and can be experienced at different levels of intensity.
 - Explain the important of expressing feelings and how we can express them.
 - Look at support and advice we can access to help manage our feelings.

History

- As historians we will :
- Explore life under the Shang Dynasty.
 - Learn who the Ancient Shang people were, where and when they lived, comparing this Ancient civilisation to others such as the Egyptians and Bronze age.
 - Learn about the role of the king and the Shang hierarchy and the religious beliefs and rituals of the Shang people.
 - Examine a range of Shang artefacts and draw conclusions about what they can teach us.
 - Look at the remarkable discovery of the first intact Shang tomb which belonged to the military general and high priestess Fu Hao.

Music

- As musicians we will :
- Improvise in music, keeping the pulse.
 - Practice copying back melodic patterns
 - Begin to create musical ideas using given notes on the glockenspiels.
 - Listen to appreciate different styles/genres.

Computing

- We will :
- Understand what a variable is in programming and set / change the variable values appropriately.
 - Create an algorithm modelling the sequence of a simple event.
 - Manipulate graphics in the design view to achieve the desired look for the programme.

French

- As linguists we will :
- Learn the correct vocabulary for a range of animals.
 - Use a range of adjectives to describe the animals.

Geography

- As geographers we will :
- Use simple coordinates when working with maps of the UK.
 - Use eight points of a compass and a key to build up knowledge about the UK.
 - Develop our understanding of maps, symbols and keys (UK and area maps) and create a map.
 - Know how to use graphs to record features such as temperatures or rainfall. Compare an area of Europe, the UK and an area in North America.

Art

- As artists we will :
- Devise suitable graphic marks from a story.
 - Respond to the work of John Brunson.
 - Explore ideas about colour and investigate a variety of painting methods.

P.E.

- As athletes we will
- Develop passing, attacking and defending skills in basketball.
 - Orientational skills, including navigation, observation co-operation and teamwork.
 - Learn the correct technique for passing and receiving a ball during football.
 - Improve dribbling, sending and receiving a ball in hockey.

D.I.

- As designers we will :
- Explore the importance of healthy eating and having an early diet.
 - Use annotated sketches and information to develop and communicate ideas.
 - Plan the main stages of a recipe listing ingredients, utensils and equipment.
 - Carry out sensory evaluations.

Maths

- As mathematicians we will :
- Work on securing our multiplication facts.
 - Look at equivalent fractions, convert between mixed and improper fractions and learn to add and subtract fractions.
 - Tell the time using both analogue and digital clocks.
 - Convert units of time (seconds, minutes and hours).
 - Recognise, compare and order decimals.
 - Add, subtract, multiply, divide and round decimals.
 - Measure and calculate the perimeter of regular and composite shapes in mm, cm and m.
 - Calculate the perimeter of squares, rectangles and triangles.

Science

- As scientists we will :
- Identify the three states of matter and their properties.
 - Understand how and why particles are arranged in different ways.
 - Explain the four main ways that materials can change state (melting, freezing, evaporating and condensing).
 - Explain the part that evaporation and condensation play in the water cycle.
 - Investigate how temperature affects evaporation rates.
 - Explain how sounds are made and how sound travels to your ear.
 - Explain how the pitch of a sound depends on the object that produced it.
 - Find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations.