



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 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, Mr S. Jones & Ms V. Hart
	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** writing, we will complete our work on the Elizabeth Laird's novel, 'Oranges in No Man's Land' firstly looking at Journalistic Writing then focus on the features of a Recount. After that, we will turn our attention to another award-winning text, Shaun Tan's 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.

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.

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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 established guidelines, **children must come to school in their P.E. kits** ready for lessons. Our P.E. day will take place on **Thursdays and Fridays**.

- 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 – 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.

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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 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.

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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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 and conversion of units of measure using decimal notation to 3 decimal places.
- Read, write & convert between standard units of length, mass, volume and 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 and 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 - 'Using our new **'Life to the Full' (Ten Ten)** PSHE programme, we will learn about the following:

- Religious Understanding (God's call to love others)
- Personal Relationships (Dealing with conflict)
- Life Online (online safety, cyberbullying, content)
- Keeping Safe in the Real World (British Values)
- Pol.Ed programme: Relationships, Keeping Safe, Understanding the law



English – As writers, readers and communicators we will :

- Continue to develop writing with **'Oranges in No Mans Land'** by Elizabeth Laird (Journalistic Writing and Recount) then return to narrative writing using the acclaimed visual narrative **'The Arrival'** by Shaun Tan to develop character descriptions, settings, use of dialogue etc.
- 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'

- Explain what fossils tell us about our past.
 - Understand Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection.
 - Identify inherited characteristics from our parents.
 - Look at how animals and plants adapt to suit their environment
- 'Scientists and Inventors'** - we will learn about the following scientists and inventors and their work:
- Katherine Johnson and flight trajectory.
 - Alexander Graham Bell and the telephone.
 - Rachel Carson and the US Environmental Agency.
 - Stephen Hawking and his black hole theories.
 - George Washington Carver and his work with agricultural science.
 - Marie Curie and her work towards modern day cancer treatments

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 Football, Volleyball, Basketball and Tennis.
- Develop team work and strategy skills.

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.