

St Francis' Catholic Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter



Year Group and Staff



Teacher: Mr Kiernan & Mrs Jeganathan

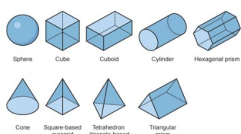
Support Staff: Mrs Kanapathy, Mrs Kokas, Mrs Annor-Agyei, Ms Diai

R.W.I & Big Write

This term, Year 1 will continue with the RWI phonics programme; learning sounds and applying them to help them read and spell. Year 1 will also have weekly grammar and Big Write lessons where they learn to write complete sentences, use new and exciting vocabulary and learn how to plan and write simple stories. The traditional stories covered in Big Write this term are Rumpelstiltskin, The Magic Porridge Pot, Goldilocks and The Papya That Spoke. Children will begin to make changes to these stories, changing characters and events to make them their own special versions.

Maths

Year 1 will continue to develop their mental maths skills this term. We will learn how bonds to 10 (such as 7+3) can help us quickly solve calculations such as 10-3 or 13+7. We will especially focus on counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 as well as counting in 1s up to and past 100, counting forwards and backwards from any number. We will also work on measurement, including telling time to the hour and half hour. Children will also learn the names and properties of 3D shapes and revise 2D shapes.



Science

Our science topic the first half term is 'Polar Places.' In this topic children will identify and name lots of different animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Children will also begin to put these animals into groups, identifying if the animals are carnivores, herbivore or omnivores. Children will then move on to explore 'Animals and Plants Where We Live'. We will plant seeds and watch them grow, thinking about the best conditions needed for a young seedling. We will also visit the Natural History Museum to discover even more about the different kinds of animals we have learnt about so far this year.



RE

The first RE topic of the term is Special People. In this topic, children will explore the special people who help them. They will then focus in on the special people in parish, the priest and others who help at the church and make up the parish family. The children will learn how Jesus is the most special person in the parish family. As part of our Citizenship fortnight, we will also learn how everyone is special, including those with disabilities. Children will explore how we are all equal and should have equal opportunities, including those of us who are disabled.

The next topic is 'Meals.' Children will learn how the parish family gathers for the Eucharist (Mass) and how it is Jesus' special meal. Children will explore the different parts of Mass and also learn the story of the Last Supper. Then 'Changes' is the final topic for the spring term. This topic is all about Lent and preparing for Easter. The topic is called 'Changes' because children will discover how change is a necessary part of healthy growth. Children will reflect on how they have changed and grown over the years. They will then see how Lent is an opportunity to change, to make a new start, and to try and be more like Jesus. Year One will also end the term with a performance of their Easter musical: 'Jesus is Alive.' Through wonderful acting and songs, the children will retell the story of Holy Week.



Reading



Please read with your child and discuss the characters and events in the story, or the information and facts if it is a non-fiction text. Children should read every evening. Please make sure your child has their reading book with them in their book bag every day.

PE

PE is **every Monday**.

Please make sure your child has the correct PE kit ready for Wednesday. In the Spring term, we will focus on gymnastics, games and fitness.



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History & Geography

In History where we will learn about what schools were like in past. Children will be able to see how their school and teachers are very different from schools and teachers in the past. Children will be introduced to the idea that schools have been in the local area for some time but they have not always been the same. They can look at similarities and differences, as well as be introduced to some of the events that affected the schools. Children will then be able to carry out some of their own investigations by using a range of different sources. Then after half term we will focus on Geography. 1J and 1K will become 'Weather Experts' in our Geography lessons. Children will learn about the different types of weather we experience in the United Kingdom and even have a go at being weather forecasters. Children will see what kinds of weather are typical for each season and will look at hot and cold places across the globe.

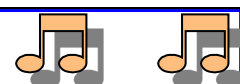


Computing

This term children will begin to understand the basics of computer programming by using programmable BeeBot toys. Children will begin to understand that an algorithm is a set of instructions used to solve a problem. Then children will finish the term learning about how to collect, present and search for data. This unit of work focuses on assigning data (images) with different labels in order to demonstrate how computers are able to group and present data



Music



To start the term, children will learn the song 'In the Groove.' This is a very easy song to learn has been arranged in six different styles; Blues, Baroque, Latin, Bhangra, Folk and Funk. Through the song, children will explore all these different styles. Children will also play musical games to teach them about pulse, rhythm and pitch. As we go into Lent and approach Easter, the Year 1 children will begin to rehearse their Easter Musical: 'Jesus is Alive.'

Homework

Homework is set on Google Classroom.

Children should log on to Google Classroom at home. Please let me know if you are having any technical issues or have forgot your child's log in details. Every week there will be one piece of English and one piece of Maths homework. The weekly spellings will also be posted.

Homework is **set on Friday** and is due to be **returned by Tuesday**. Remember to click the 'turn in' or 'submit' button so the homework can be marked.

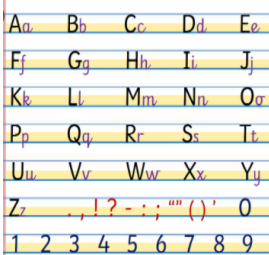
Spelling tests will be **on Fridays**, giving children a whole week to learn them.



Handwriting

We will continue to practise handwriting. This will be important as many children will have been typing these past months rather than writing.

In Year One, leaving spaces between words as well as making sure capital letters and lower case are the appropriate sizes is very important. These skills can be practised at home as well.



French

This half term children will learn the days of the week and months of the year in French. Then we will move on learning the names of colours in French. We will also use songs to recap our previous topics of greetings and numbers.

