



*In the Light of Jesus  
we Learn to Shine*

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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*St. Alban*

*Catholic Schools' Partnership*

## Year 4 Curriculum September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We welcome you and your children to Year 4. For your information we are sending you an overview of the curriculum your child will be covering this term. We will continue to teach an ambitious and broad curriculum in all subjects from the start of the Autumn Term. Please be assured we will continue to use teacher assessment prior to learning any new content.

During the Autumn Term there will be an opportunity to have formal feedback on how your child has settled into their new class and year group.

<p><b>RE:</b> As reported in the RE newsletter, topics covered this term will be:</p> <p><b>People</b> – to learn the importance of their own families and that Jesus had a natural family with real people with names and history.</p> <p><b>Called</b> – to explore promises made and rules accepted. The children will learn about how Christians are called to friendship with Jesus in a special way through baptism and confirmation.</p> <p><b>Gift</b> - to explore time, love and friendship as important gifts. This links to the season of Advent and God's special gift to us, Jesus.</p> <p><b>Other World Faiths</b> - During this term the children will also spend a week exploring and developing an appreciation of another faith; this will be the faith tradition of <b>Judaism</b>.</p> <p><b>Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)</b> - We will be using the 'Christopher Winter' programme, alongside 'Journey in Love,' to support our RSHE curriculum.</p>	<p><b>English:</b></p> <p><b>Basic skills and descriptive writing:</b> The new term will begin with some basic skills development. Children will look at using a variety of sentences, varying their connectives and punctuation and widening their vocabulary in order to improve the quality of their written work.</p> <p><b>Novel:</b> Our class novel will be 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell. We will be spending some time on reading response activities to ensure a deep understanding of the text and then the children will be covering many different genres of writing while studying the text, including instructions, motivational speeches, newspapers, persuasion and non-chronological reports.</p> <p><b>Please note that we will also have a weekly spelling test, daily guided reading and weekly grammar and comprehension lessons.</b></p>
<p><b>Maths:</b> The topics we will cover this term include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number and Place Value: Numbers to 1000, HTO, rounding to 10/100/1000, counting in thousands, represent numbers to 10,000, partitioning numbers, ordering numbers, negative numbers, Roman numerals.</li><li>• Addition &amp; Subtraction: Adding/Subtraction (O, T, H, Th), adding/subtracting 3/4 digit numbers with/out exchanging, estimating answers &amp; checking strategies.</li><li>• Multiplication and Division: Times Arithmetic: Mixed Questions</li></ul> <p><b>Please note that the Calculation Policy is published in the Home and School Diary.</b></p> <p>Parents can support their children with the learning of the times tables - TT Rockstars and Education City are useful resources for which your child will receive a log in.</p>	<p><b>Science:</b></p> <p><b>Humans and Other Animals:</b></p> <p>Pupils will look at the human digestive system and will understand the function of its different parts. Recognise different types of teeth – we will use this information to see how animals have adapted to different diets.</p> <p>Healthy teeth, the importance of looking after them and how different materials, including excess sugar in diets, can lead to tooth decay. Pupils will carry out experiments to see the effects of sugar on teeth (using eggs). Different toothpastes will be looked at to see how effective they are at protecting egg shells from sugar.</p> <p>Food chains, looking at the role of a producer and understand terms predator, prey, consumer.</p> <p><b>All Living Things:</b> Grouping living things, classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment</p>

<p><b>Computing:</b>  <b>Discovery Education (Programming):</b> The children will be learning to input commands to achieve a desired goal, and will problem solve through trial and error.  <b>(We are Musicians):</b> Using Isle of Tune, pupils will practise rhythm, learn to edit music, create and develop musical composition, refining their ideas through reflection and discussion. They will develop collaboration skills, develop an awareness of how their composition can enhance work in other media and create music for How to Train your Dragon trailer  <b>Online Safety</b> will continue to be an important aspect of your child's learning.</p>	<p><b>PE</b>  All children will participate in various games activities. <b>Games</b> activities this term include netball and rugby. As rugby will take place on the field, please can you supply your child with a small plastic bag for carrying shoes and trainers.  For Indoor PE all children will be developing their gymnastics skills, creating sequences, using balance and controlled movements. Dance lessons will also take place this term.  A separate letter regarding swimming arrangements this year has been sent home to the first two classes attending.</p>
<p><b>Creative Curriculum:</b> (including key skills in geography, history, art and DT)  The Creative Curriculum topic this term is a history-based unit of work on The Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. During this topic the children will research what life was like for the Saxons and compare it to their own lives. Starting with the Roman withdrawal from Britain, children will learn about The Scots' invasions from Ireland to Northern Britain (now Scotland), the Anglo-Saxon invasions, settlements and kingdoms; they will also study Anglo-Saxon Art and culture. We will also be looking at the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the kingdom of England, which will include Viking raids and invasions, resistance to Alfred the Great and Athelstan the first King of England, Anglo-Saxon laws and justices and Edward the Confessor and his death in 1066. The children will have the opportunity to design and create their own Viking longship.</p>	

### Miscellaneous:

Please could you ensure your child brings all that is needed to school each day. Encourage your child to read and enjoy a wide variety of texts at home and if possible, visit the local library. Every child should be encouraged to read regularly, daily if they require it and to practise their spellings patterns and multiplication tables. Please check the **Home and School** diary to confirm tasks that have been set during the week and ensure your child returns their work promptly so that it can be marked and feedback given. Diaries should be signed at the end of each week and will be collected in once a week.

We encourage you to set some time aside each week to pray together as a family.

**This half term in Year 4 spelling, grammar and maths homework will be set weekly. The children are expected to read at least four times a week and later this term they will continue to take part in the St. Joseph's Reading Race with a new set of texts for Year 4.**

Times of PE sessions will be recorded in the Home and School diary. Please could you make sure that your child has their correct PE kit in school on the appropriate day, clearly marked with their name. May we also take this opportunity to remind parents that for health and safety reasons, **no jewellery can be worn during PE lessons and this includes swimming sessions.** Please note that children who use inhalers must have them in school.

We look forward to working with you and your child this term. If you have any questions or concerns before the Parent Consultation Meeting, please use the Home and School Diary to make an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher or Year Leader, or alternatively make an appointment through the main school office.

Thank you for your support and involvement in your child's learning.

Yours sincerely,

*C Wood*

Mrs C. Wood  
Year 4 Leader

