



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 January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We welcome you to the start of a very busy term. For your information we are sending you an overview of the curriculum your child will be covering in the Lent Term. This information may enable you to take your child on visits and/or find library books or other resources that will support their learning.

During this term, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher at the Parent Consultation Meeting. Dates for this meeting are in the January newsletter and appointment times will be arranged later in the term.

R.E. As reported in the R.E. newsletter, *Come and See* topics covered this term will be:

Community

The experience of community is an essential and enjoyable part of life for people of every age and faith. During this topic the children will understand how Jesus created a Christian community starting with his Apostles and how that Christian community carries on today. As part of this topic, we will be looking at the duties and life as a Parish Priest.

Giving and Receiving

Being thoughtful for life, for people and gifts, is a vital part of our relationships with one another. During this topic the children will be able to show how feelings and beliefs about giving and receiving affect their own behaviour and that of others. They will understand why Christians attend the celebration of the Eucharist.

Self Discipline

Linking to the season of Lent, this topic explores how life, especially family life, is full of opportunities for self-giving. The children will learn to ask and respond to questions about their own and others' experiences of being self-disciplined. They will be able to retell the stories of Holy Week and describe some way that Christians try to be self-disciplined during Lent.

English:

Our English work this term will be linked to our 'A Land Far Away' topic. We will be reading 'The Firework Makers Daughter' by Philip Pullman. Exploration of the novel will lead to writing letters and diary entries. Pupils will also be carrying out research and creating leaflets about China.

Grammar – this term we will explore word classes, fronted adverbials, possessive apostrophes and inverted commas.

Spelling – our focus for the first half term will be Common Exception Words. During the second half term we will look at prefixes and suffixes. Spelling lists will also include topic words.

Reading – during daily choral reading sessions the children will be reading short extracts from high quality texts, recommended for Year 4 children. The pupils will be continuing to develop their decoding skills as well as their retrieval and inference skills.

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<p>Maths:</p> <p>Following the Rising Stars scheme of work, we will be covering the following units:</p> <p>Number and Place Value: Decimal numbers on a place value grid and number line.</p> <p>Fractions: Fractions greater than one, adding and subtracting fractions.</p> <p>Multiplication and Division: 11/12 times tables and recap of all other multiplication facts; Written strategies for multiplying 1-and-2 digit numbers by a single digit; Written strategies for dividing 1-and-2 digit numbers by a single digit; Factor pairs.</p> <p>Measurement: Calculating area</p>	<p>Science:</p> <p>Electricity - pupils will identify different appliances that use electricity and discuss electrical symbols and safety. Pupils will also explore and make simple electrical circuits; becoming familiar with the basic components. This unit will be linked to our work in D.T.</p> <p>States of Matter – in this unit pupils will explore the different states of matter; solids, liquids and gases. The children will carry out various investigations where they will consider heating, cooling, evaporation and condensation. They will also find out about the water cycle.</p>
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<p>Computing:</p> <p>Digital Literacy: pupils will discuss online safety and begin to evaluate online resources for inaccuracies and trustworthiness.</p> <p>Programming: pupils will collect weather data using different measurement techniques (analogue and digital) and use computer-based data logging to record the data. Pupils will use spreadsheets to create charts, analyse data and make predictions.</p>	<p>Games and P.E.</p> <p>Games – Invasion games – developing skills and tactics to play games involving attack and defence (Hockey & Netball).</p> <p>Dance – Create and perform dances using a range of movement patterns.</p> <p>Gymnastics – Travelling, twisting and turning.</p> <p>Swimming – Use a range of strokes effectively <i>September to 29 January – classes 4BG & 4CW</i> <i>05 February to July – classes 4OR & 4PE</i></p>
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Creative Curriculum: (Including the key skills in History, Geography, Design & Technology and Art & Design)

This term our topic will be ‘**A Land Far Away**’

In this topic pupils will investigate China and its fascinating history. They will find out about the geography of China and research some of its many natural and man-made features. The children will explore the culture of China and consider why so many tourists choose to visit. Pupils will also learn about the Shang Dynasty. Much of this work will be linked to English and the creation of a leaflet about China.

As part of this topic the children will have the opportunity to be creative as well! They will explore traditional Chinese art; lanterns, willow pattern plates and calligraphy. Pupils will also combine their learning from the topic Electricity in Science with Design Technology to create a Chinese city line at night.

Miscellaneous:

Please could you ensure that 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 and multiplication tables. Please check the **Home and School Diary** to confirm homework 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.

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

We look forward to continuing our work with you and your child during the coming term. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please use the Home and School Diary to communicate these or make an appointment to meet with your child’s class teacher or Year Leader, 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

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