

St. Augustine's Catholic Primary Curriculum Overview

Spring Term 2018

Welcome to the Spring Term in Year 6. I hope you have all had an enjoyable break and are feeling refreshed and ready for an exciting term ahead, where we will be covering the following areas:

Religious Education

Our studies will reflect the seasons, feasts and monthly devotions of the Church Year. We will study and pray the prayers from the Catholic tradition, growing in knowledge and love of God and His Holy Catholic Church. We will be following the Come and See scheme, which will cover Family and the Domestic Church, Belonging and Loving. They will be focusing on continuing Jesus' Mission, Eucharist as the living memorial of Christ's sacrifice, and Lent: aligning with the sacrifice made by Jesus. The aim is to develop pupils who are religiously literate, knowing, being able to explain, and to live out the truths of their Catholic Faith.

English

Children will be studying a range of genres including poetry, biographies and autobiographies, instructional and explanation texts. Our reading material will reflect other areas of the curriculum, including science and history. Pupils will be doing past SATs reading papers and learning how to compose a good quality comprehension answer – this will assist our preparation for the SATs tests in May. Pupils will also develop their ability to explain things clearly using good quality sentences. They will learn how to compose a good paragraph, developing an idea and sticking to the point.

The National Curriculum emphasises the importance of transcription. Pupils will learn to copy accurately and to take dictation. They will continue to enrich their vocabulary in order to become more precise in their use of language. Children will have explicit grammar lessons where they will be learning about conjunctions, prepositions and clauses. Spelling will explore spelling rules, common letter strings and those exceptional words that can still cause difficulty for even the best spellers. We will reinforce basic punctuation, especially sentence breaks and the layout of dialogue. Pupils will also learn more advanced punctuation including colon, semi-colon, brackets and ellipsis. Pupils will continue to work on and perfect their joined-up handwriting, developing a neat, attractive, efficient style.

Mathematics

We are continuing to use Abacus Active Learn to support the teaching of mathematics. Active Learn helps children make sense of and practice their maths through a combination of activities, maths games, interactive tasks and pupil videos. Remember that Abacus can be used to support learning at home. Your child has been provided with a username and password to allow them to practise their maths skills using Abacus at home.

Pupils will continue to deepen their understanding of the number system including:

- the fundamental theorem of arithmetic – prime numbers and prime factors
 - the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages, and concepts including equivalence, conversion, place value and ratio
 - the four operations including long multiplication and long division
 - measuring and conversion of units of measure
 - probability i.e. calculating how likely it is that something will happen
- In geometry (*geo* – earth/ *meter* – measure) this is the programme of study:
- complete the geometry of quadrilaterals; the geometry of triangles
 - properties of three dimensional shapes

Pupils will develop the accuracy and precision of their written work and will of course be doing plenty of practice test papers, bearing in mind their end of year SATs tests. Do make sure that good habits are established as far as homework is concerned.

Science

This term the children will learn all about light, how we see, shadows, reflection and refraction. The children will learn how light travels and how this enables us to see objects. The children will have the opportunity to make a functioning periscope, finding out about mirrors and the angles of reflection and incidence. They will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate refraction, carrying out some fascinating experiments into the effects of bending light. Pupils will learn to record their work using scientific vocabulary and reliable sources, as well as neat, accurate and correct writing. We will be enabling the pupils to think scientifically so as to test ideas about the world.

Computing

Children will continue to develop their computer skills, focusing on how to effectively use the internet to research, and then how to share this information. The children will also complete a number of projects this term, which will see them creating PowerPoints.

History & Geography

In geography, we will be studying the importance of water and water uses in Britain. We will also be learning about countries that have water shortages. In addition, the children will have the opportunity to investigate ways to conserve water. Throughout the topic, there will be an emphasis on learning and using a range of geographical skills.

PSHCE (P=Personal, S=Social, H=Health, C=Citizenship, E=Education).

Children will learn about their responsibilities within the school and in the wider world. We will celebrate Internet Safety Day, revising how to stay safe online. Our monthly values will be a focus to help teach children how they should behave to become effective citizens. The values we are focusing on this term are:

January: truth and justice

February: humility and gentleness

March: service and sacrifice

PE

Children will develop key skills related to invasion games. They will develop techniques needed for basketball such as; dribbling, shooting, different styles of passing and tackling. Children will plan, use and adapt strategies and tactics in game situations, but also work on their gymnastics skills.

French

Children will continue to learn conversational French as well as studying the culture of France.

Homework

Homework is set on Mondays (English and Spelling) and Wednesdays (Maths). Children are also expected to read for at least 30 minutes and practise their times tables/ number bonds each day. Homework in other areas will be set from time to time. Please understand that it is essential for your child to complete homework thoroughly, on time and in a neat and tidy manner. If your child is unable to complete his or her homework do write a note to let us know.

I would like to thank you in advance for working with us to ensure the best for your child and I look forward to another busy, successful and fruitful spring term!

Miss Scheuermann