



English Martyrs Catholic Primary School
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7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the spring term in Year 4. I must begin by thanking you for your thoughtful Christmas presents and wishes and wishing you a Happy New Year.

This letter is to outline the curriculum so that you may support your child in any way you can.

In RE, our topic is Jesus the Teacher. Week by week we will learn how Jesus linked his Jewish traditions and beliefs with his teaching. We will understand and describe how this teaching and experience should be linked to our own lives, including the development of faith and our response to the needs of others.

In English we continue to practise comprehension, writing stories, poems and information texts. Our grammar and spelling focus will be:

- Writing in paragraphs - *a new idea in a piece of writing means a new paragraph*
- punctuation for speech - e.g. *We said, "Don't do that."*
- apostrophes - the book's title (one book), the books' titles (more books each with a title)
- regular and irregular plurals - apple/apples, lorry/lorries

English is a language which has benefitted from the influence from Latin and Greek and other more modern European languages. This has resulted in a rich, infinitely descriptive way of speaking and writing. The best way for your children to develop their English skills is to develop a love of reading by reading as much as they can and discussing the books. One recommended list for Year 4 is attached.

In maths we will use multiplication and division to solve problems, finding the area of a shape and fractions of numbers. We will continue to prepare for the multiplication test in June by reciting tables daily and by changing the mathematical language we use. Eg 5x2, the product of 2 and 5; 10 divided by 2etc.

In science we will continue work on solids, liquids and gases (states of matter), identifying the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature, using graphs and charts to record our findings.

In geography we are looking at weather and the geographical and human influences, using maps and online tools.

We have no specific area of history this term but by reducing waste and single use plastic in our classroom and lives, we are contributing to the history of the future and are in-step with the debate on climate change and global warming. In gardening, we will plant sustainable habitats for bees and insects.

In art and DT, we will be drawing, painting and making models to support work in science and geography.

PE is on Tuesday and Wednesday, Spanish is on Wednesday and strings on Friday.

Now Mrs Pinkerton is teaching Year 3, I will teach Year 4 on Wednesday and will use Friday afternoons while the children have strings for SEND work.

Practising core concepts in school and using what they have learned in their home life, will give children the confidence to have a go. Persistence, resilience and enthusiasm are all part of the mental well-being which leads to effective learning. This is what we will continue to develop in Year 4 with your continued support.

I hope we can visit Tate Modern for the exhibition on Surrealism or Tate Britain to see some of JMW Turner's works.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs C Pannell