

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School
Spring Term 2019
Year Five/ Six
Curriculum Letter



Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful break and a wonderful Christmas. It has been a pleasure looking at the imaginative creations that the children have produced for their class homework. I am writing to inform you of the work we will be covering in class over the next two terms, class timetable arrangements and also to let you know the dates and times of some events that will take place this term. If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to ask.

Kind regards,

Mrs Craig

RE	This term the children will be covering the parables and sayings of Jesus and marriage and holy orders, before moving on to thinking about Lent, Holy Week and Easter. The children in Year 6 who will be Confirmed by the Bishop in March will be preparing for this special sacrament.
Literacy	The children in Upper Key Stage 2 will continue to be taught in ability groups for Literacy. As well as specific grammar, spelling and punctuation skills, we will be looking at persuasive writing, including letters, speeches and adverts. We will move on to develop our story writing skills, including stories with flashbacks as well as writing poetry. In reading we will focus heavily on inference and deduction as well as why the author may have chosen specific vocabulary.
Maths	In Upper Key Stage 2 we will continue to teach in ability groups for Maths. We will be covering angles, properties of shape, coordinates, percentages, charts, graphs and tables. We would ask that you still encourage your children to work on their times tables and related division facts, as well as learning equivalents for fractions, decimals and percentages and measures.
Science	<p>The children will explore the Solar System: The planets, Sun and Moon. To develop a greater understanding of the relationship between the Sun and Earth, the children will observe, record and describe the movement of shadows. They will find out about the Earth, Sun and Moon; how big they are and how far away from each other they are. To explain day and night, pupils will use the idea of the Earth's rotation..</p> <p>Through our study of forces we will look at air resistance and water resistance and friction. This will incorporate planning and conducting an investigation in order to explore different variables and mechanisms.</p>

PE	Mr Mawn will be supporting Upper Key Stage Two again this term, teaching gymnastics and athletics. PE lessons will take place on a Thursday and Friday afternoon for all children in Upper Key Stage 2. Please ensure your child has an appropriate change of clothes for outdoor lessons during these colder months. This includes a warm jumper and jogging bottoms when the weather is colder with appropriate outdoor trainers. Long hair should be tied up and jewellery should be removed. Miss Grant's class will be swimming on a Monday afternoon during the Spring term. Please let me know in writing if your child is unable to take part in a PE or swimming.
Computing	Pupils will recall and understand the SMART rules to recognise what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour online whilst using technology safely and respectfully. They will begin to understand how the internet can provide multiple services including Podcasts which give the opportunity for communication.
History	This term the children will be looking at the history of space travel and the space race. We will be comparing our modern day lives with that of post-war Britain before discussing the journey of technology through to the first steps on the moon and then onto the modern inventions that we know and love.
Art	Continuing the space theme, Peter Thorpe is the artist that the children will be studying this term. Thorpe is a famous modern artist whose main motif is sci-fi. The children will then create their own impressions of his famous pieces.
DT	In DT we will be looking at Working with tools, equipment, materials and components to make a wire loop game. Pupils will be taught to select tools, techniques and materials for making their product, suggesting alternative ways of making their product, if first attempts fails. Other skills will include how to measure, cut and shape a range of materials.
PSHE	During PSHE this term we will be using the SEAL and SCARF schemes of work. The units we will cover are: how to be an effective learner, how to recognise personal achievements and setting personal goals.
Music	This term, the children will be listening to, and recording, sounds within music as well as composing pieces of music with others. The children will be specifically focusing on Holst's Planet Suite.
MFL	In French, students will continue to increase speaking skills through the use of songs, rhymes, vocabulary as well as conversation. They will be able to use vocabulary relating to weather, seasons and how to order food and drink.

Homework Expectations

Students will be given homework weekly in literacy and maths. Children will receive literacy on Thursday and maths on Friday. They are due to be handed in the following Monday. These tasks should not take more than thirty minutes each but children may work for longer if they wish to complete the task.. If your child has not completed their work in that time and you wish them to stop, please sign the work showing that they have worked for the allotted time.

In addition to this, class homework will also be given out each week on Tuesday. This work is due back on Thursday.

To ensure that children get used to doing some form of homework each night, we would ask that your child reads for at least 20 minutes on a Monday night and practices times tables/mental maths on a Wednesday for a similar amount of time. This is not formal homework but does prepare the children for nightly homework at secondary school.

Class Key Dates

Class Assembly for Mrs Craig Class: Friday 8th March

Monday 21st January- Year 6 IMPS trips at The Horton Hospital (Details to be sent out next week).

Monday 28th January- Year 6 IMPS trips at The Horton Hospital (Details to be sent out next week).

Wednesday 30th January- 9.30 UKS2 Mass in Church

Sunday 10th February- Mass for Year 6 Confirmation Sponsors.

Saturday 9th March- 12-7pm- Confirmation Retreat Day.

Saturday 16th March- 9am- Confirmation rehearsal.

Saturday 23rd March- 6pm- Confirmation Mass (For those children who will be confirmed this academic year).