



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary School

Inspiring all to live, learn and love in the light of Jesus.

(cf John 8:12)



12th January, 2018



Dear Parents / Carers

Year 6 - Spring Term Curriculum Letter

Welcome back after the Christmas holidays! We hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas / New Year and are looking forward to the academic year ahead.

Year 6 Staff : Class Teachers : Miss. N. Marray, Mr. D. Hutton & Miss S. Hayes
Higher Level Teaching Assistant : Mrs. J. Moore
Support Assistants: Mrs. K. Oakley, Mrs. P. Halloran
& Mr. R. Mallender

Our topic this term is 'Room 13 / Whitby'

During this topic we will study the famous coastal town of Whitby, North Yorkshire which links perfectly with our class book 'Room 13' (see below). As well as using it as a reference to the events in the book, we will use our geographical skills to compare and contrast the human and physical features of this location and our home town of Dewsbury. In addition, we will examine both the economical features that characterise Whitby today and investigate the famous people throughout history who are linked with the town (e.g. Captain James Cook, Bram Stoker etc.)

Our topic will allow the children to utilise many skills learnt throughout the term resulting in children writing their own narrative stories, descriptive settings, newspaper reports, persuasive writing, instructions and poetry. Children will have the opportunity to use their artistic skills this term along with their designing skills to produce detailed landscapes.

(See topic plan for full details)

In **R.E.** we will be exploring 'Exploring the Mass' and 'Jesus the Messiah'. There will be an opportunity to contribute to Act of Worship sessions and fully immerse themselves in the spirituality of the school. **At home**, encourage discussions with children relating to these topics focusing on key terminology and its meaning.

In **Mathematics** we will continue to focus on the four operations and how the various methods can be used to solve problems. (Further information can be found on the topic plan). **At home**, please encourage regular Maths games involving dice, mental calculation of numbers and money, practical use of Maths in shopping and especially to **learn their times tables**. Make it relevant to the real world wherever possible.

In **English** we will be focusing on the award-winning Robert Swindell's novel 'Room 13' as this will link nicely to our Whitby topic. It is a wonderful, spooky story with good characterisation, a believable setting, humour and the ability to make the unreal seem real. The scary plot grips the reader from the opening paragraph. This text will allow the children to extend their narrative writing whilst also providing excellent opportunities for non-fiction genres such as newspaper reports, persuasive writing, instructions and poems. **At home**, please encourage regular reading of fiction & non-fiction. Promote a love of books and try to allow your child to be given the opportunity to discuss the texts. Through discussion at home, encourage them to develop their vocal expression in their written language. Remember - 'They have to be able to say it before they can write it.'

In **Science** our topic is 'Evolution and Inheritance' and 'Light' (Further information can be found on the topic map). **At home**, encourage their curiosity in the world around them so that they ask questions and seek to find the answers to everyday events.

Physical Education (P.E.) - is on **Friday afternoons**. Some children are consistently not bringing their P.E. kits to school. Please ensure your child has a white t-shirt, blue (or black) shorts and a pair of trainers for outdoor use, which they should leave in school. As an optional extra, a dark coloured pair of jogging trousers and a jumper can be used throughout the cold months, when we are outside. As always, the only jewellery permitted in school is a pair of plain small studs, and these must be removed for P.E. for safety. Staff are not able to remove them or cover them, so this will result in your child not taking part in our P.E. lesson.

➤ Please ensure your child has a P.E. kit in school at all times.

Homework will be given out each **Monday** and **MUST** be completed and returned by the following **Monday**. This gives the children enough time to see their class teacher if they are struggling. The purpose of this work is to consolidate the learning from class and to prepare them for more intensive homework at high school. It is therefore extremely important that this work is completed. Any children who fail to bring/complete their homework on Monday will have to complete it during their playtime. If a child does not complete their homework three times in a half-term a letter will go home and they will not be able to attend the end of half-term treat.

Children will have an independent reading book which will be brought home on a daily basis and **MUST** be returned to school every day. Reading records will be given to the children for parents to fill out as and when their child reads during the week at home.

Year 6 Assemblies : Will take place on Friday, 19th January (Class 6H) and Friday, 26th January (Class 6M), at 2:30 pm.

Holy Week Assembly : Our Holy Week assembly will be on Wednesday, 28th March at 2:30 pm.

Important Dates

- **Friday, 12th January** (10:30) – School Mass
- **Tuesday, 16th January** (17:30) - Year 6 SATs Information Session for Parents
- **Thursday, 18th January** (15:15) - Year 6 SATs Information Session for Parents
- **Friday, 19th January** (14:30) - 6H Class Assembly
- **Thursday, 25th January** (14:40) - Parents Invite: KSII Celebration Assembly
- **Friday, 26th January** (14:30) - 6M Class Assembly
- **Friday, 2nd February** (14:15) - Candlemas Assembly - KSII
- **Thursday, 8th February** (14:40) - Parents Invite: KSII Celebration Assembly
- **Friday, 9th February** (19:30 – 21:00) - Eurovision Song Contest : KSII
- **Wednesday, 14th February** - Ash Wednesday
- **Friday, 16th February – School closes for Spring half-term holidays**
- **Monday, 26th February - School re-opens**
- **Tues, 27th - Wed. 28th February** (15:30) - Parents Consultations

We are looking forward to a very productive and fun half term.

Thank you

Miss. N. Marray, Mr. D. Hutton & Miss S. Hayes
Year 6 Teachers

'An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.' Ofsted 2017

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Year 6 - Entry Point: Room 13 (by Robert Swindells)

Exit Point: 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness

Mathematics - As Mathematicians we will :

- Secure our knowledge and understanding as well as practice applying the following areas of mathematics:
- Interpret negative numbers in context counting forwards and backwards with positive and negative whole numbers including zero.
- Use rounding to check answers to calculations.
- Round decimals with two decimal places to the nearest whole number and to one decimal place.
- Convert between different units of metric measure.
- Measure and calculate the perimeter and area of rectilinear shapes.
- Draw given angles and measure them using degrees.
- Identify angles at different points.
- Identify 3D shapes.
- Tell the time (both digital and analog) and working out time problems
- Find and plot co-ordinates
- Find averages, specifically mean, mode and median
- Probability
- Data handling

Design Technology - As designers we will :

- Make a vase using clay
- Design and make masks

P.E. - As athletes we will :

- Develop our dance skills
- Develop our hockey skills.

PSHE - We will :

- Complete the Spiced Drugs Programme
- Understand risks and how to manage them.

Room 13 / Whitby / Monsters

English - As writers and communicators we will :

- Write extended narrative using the horror genre.
- Write a description of a haunted setting.
- Use persuasion to persuade someone not to enter the woods.
- Write instructions on how to destroy a monster.
- Review newspaper articles on monster sighting.

Science - As scientists we will look at :

'We're Evolving' -

- The topic looks at how living things produce offspring that are similar in appearance, but identical to themselves, whether they are plants or animals. They should also consider how animals change over time as they adapt to their environment and this leads to longer term changes.
- Evidence of changes over long periods of time, will be built on the year 3 topic of rocks, looking at fossils.

'Let it Shine' -

- This topic introduces the concept of light travelling in straight lines. It starts by looking at beams of light and how light travels to enable children to understand how we see things. This understanding is then applied to the product of shadows and starts to look at how light is reflected. The topic then takes the learning into the realm of coloured light and rainbows, using scientific skills to raise and answer questions.

R.E. - As theologians we will study :

Exploring the Mass -

- Jesus is the bread of life.
- Understand that Jesus made a New Covenant with us.
- Understand that Penitential Act and the Liturgy of the Word.
- Understand what happens at the Offertory, Consecration.
- Understand that the Eucharist is the source and summit of life.

Jesus then Messiah -

- Deepen our understanding of Jesus.
- Understand that Jesus is the Messiah.
- Know about the final journey Jesus made to Jerusalem.
- Know about the events of holy Thursday and reflect on the importance of these events.
- Know about the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus and reflect on their meanings.

Computing - We will :

- Use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.
- Recognise acceptable / unacceptable behaviour.
- Identify a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact.

Geography - As geographers we will :

- Distinguish the United Kingdom from the British Isles. To recognise the four countries which make up the UK. To learn the names of the capital cities and locations of these countries. To locate Dewsbury on a map and compare and contrast with locations of Whitby and Transylvania (Romania).
- Investigate the Human and Physical features of Whitby and compare with those of Dewsbury.
- Ask geographical questions using correct terminology
- Consider economical activities of Whitby (e.g. fishing, tourism)
- Hold a class debate about geographical issues.
- Learn about famous people and events of Whitby.

Art - As artists we will :

- Learn about the great artists, architects and designers in history. Monet's The Scream.
- Design and create portraits of Monsters using a variety of techniques and media

Global Dimensions:

These lessons are designed to help children recognise their contribution & responsibilities as citizens of our global community and equip them with the skills to make informed decisions and take responsible actions. They will be given opportunities to: critically examine their own values and attitudes; appreciate the similarities between peoples everywhere, and value diversity; understand the global context of their local lives; and develop skills that will enable them to combat injustice, prejudice and discrimination. Such knowledge & understanding enables young people to play an active role in the global community.