



The Blessed
Peter Snow
Catholic Academy Trust



St. Paulinus Catholic Primary Academy

Part of the Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Academy Trust

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

(cf John 8:12)



15th May 2024



Dear Parents / Carers

Year 4 - Summer Term Curriculum Letter

We hope that you are looking forward to lots of exciting learning over the course of the summer term.

Year 4 Staff : Class Teachers: Miss L Hall (4H)
& Mrs. N. Scholey / Mrs. B. Irving (4SI)
Higher Level Teaching Assistant: Miss. K. McNally
Educational Teaching Assistants: Mrs. T. Berla, Mrs S Crossland and Miss D. Rylah

Our theme this term is 'Mayans & The Rainforest'

In our **History** lessons, we will explore the Ancient Maya Civilisation. During this unit we will explore who the Mayans were and when they lived. We will explore the number and letter system they used and their religious beliefs. You can support your child's learning by helping them research the Mayans. If you do not have internet access at home, you can always use the library which will have plenty of books on the subject.

In the second half term in **Geography**, we will explore the Tropical Rainforests of the world. We will use artefacts and geographical information to enhance and improve our reading, writing and geography skills. We will be learning about a wide spectrum of facts from the location of rainforests to the plants, animals and people that live in them. We will also learn about how rainforests are to survive in our modern age.

(See curriculum plan for full details)

In **R.E.** the themes of learning are 'Mission of the Church, the Early Christians' and 'Belonging to the Church'. Parents are encouraged to start discussions with children relating to these topics focusing on key terminology and its meaning. For example, how was the Church founded, who is the Pope and why is the Church important to our faith?

In **Mathematics** we will be focussing on basic skills, shape and problem solving (further information can be found on the curriculum plan). To help your children please provide your children with opportunities to practise the four basic number operations, and encourage problem solving relating to real life issues, using money and fusing money and units of measure. We would also ask you to encourage your children to tell the time, using both analogue and digital clocks. In June, the children will complete a times table check where they will be required to answer 25 questions and have 6 seconds for each question. Please help your child practise as often as possible so that they are ready for this test.

In **English** we will be reading 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' and discussing and empathising with the characters in the novel. We will write diary entries, character descriptions and a setting description. As parents / carers you can support at home by helping your child to complete homework relating to our class work and pointing out descriptive writing, encouraging discussions around why it is a good piece of writing.

In **Science** we will be focussing on 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. We will initially explore adaptations and characteristics that animals have to help them to survive in a range of environments. We will then incorporate plants into our learning and explore how we can care for all living things in our planet. This was supported by our educational visit to **Yorkshire Wildlife Park on Tuesday 14th May.**

In **RPSHE** we will be exploring the topic 'Living in the Wider World.' We will be looking at the threats that the environment faces and what we can do to help. This will also incorporate the rights and responsibilities that we have in school, at home and in the world.

Physical Education (P.E.) – is on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** for both classes.

Children will continue to come to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days. Please may we take this opportunity to kindly remind all families that the school P.E. kit is uniform and that pupils should **not** come to school in clothes that do not form the school P.E. kit.

- The St. Paulinus P.E. kit consists of:
 - a plain white t-shirt with or without the school logo (no brands or patterns),
 - plain black or dark grey shorts / jogging bottoms or leggings (no brands or patterns),
 - grey school hoodie with the school logo,
 - Trainers or a pair of pumps.
- In addition, the **only** jewellery permitted in school is a pair of plain small stud earrings. If your child has pierced ears, these need to be removed on each morning of P.E. for health and safety reasons.

Please note that staff are not able to remove earrings, so this will result in your child not taking part in our P.E. lesson and an alternative task will be provided for the child, this is due to health and safety reasons.

- Long hair **must** be tied back.
- All P.E. kit (including school uniform) must be labelled clearly with your child's name. If it becomes lost, it can then be easily returned to the rightful owner.
- **Please ensure your child wears their PE kit on their P.E. days.**

Please ensure your child wears their P.E. kit on their P.E. days. If your child does not come to school in their P.E. kit, you may receive a text message to inform you that they need it for the following week. All P.E. kit and school uniform **must** be labelled clearly with your child's name. If it becomes lost, it can then be easily returned to the rightful owner.

Times tables and Spellings - The children will have a list of spellings which will be tested on a Friday. Times tables should be practised as often as possible. The children can access Times Table Rockstars (using their individual log in) to support them with these. Times tables will also be tested throughout the week.

Homework - will be given out each **Friday** and will be collected back in on the following **Wednesday**. This gives the children enough time to see their class teacher if they are struggling and doesn't encroach on precious family time at the weekend. 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.

Reading - The children will continue to read as much as possible in school to an adult on a weekly basis. Please send in your child's reading book on their allocated day written on their book bag and we will change your child's book once a week. Please remember to write in your child's reading record to acknowledge that you have listened to your child read. It is also very important to check your child's understanding when reading. Do not forget to use the question sheets and challenges to use alongside the books.

'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

The Way Forward - Paperless Communication

As you know we try very hard to keep parents regularly informed about what's going on at our school, however sending paper letters home can be rather 'hit and miss' with letters often going astray along the way.

We aim to be 'Paperless', this is beneficial both to ourselves and to you because:

- Messages will get to you reliably.
- We can send messages directly to mums and dads at the same time.
- You will receive important or urgent messages more effectively.
- We can tell you more about what's going on within our school.
- Letters will also be available to read on the school's website and the School App.

If you have not already provided us with an e-mail address, please do so. If you would like to continue receiving paper copies, then please contact the office OR complete the '[e-mail request form](#)' on the School App.

Any information you provide us with will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher via email: year4@stpaulinus.org or by contacting the school office and arranging a telephone appointment.

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

Thank you.

Miss L. Hall, Mrs. N. Scholey & Mrs. B. Irving
Year 4 Teachers

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Year 4

Summer Term Curriculum Overview

R.E. - As theologians we will :

- Look at the mission of the Church and what Jesus wanted his disciples to complete.
- We will reflect on our place in the Church and look at what we have to do to become part of the Church community.

Science - As scientists we will :

- Investigate living things.
- We will recognise how living things are adapted for their environments.
- We will recognise that environments change and this can pose dangers to living things.
- We will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways.
- We will set up enquiries and plan fair tests by identifying, observing and recording variables.

PE - As athletes we will:

- Develop our map skills through orienteering.
- Learn attacking and defending skills within a net and wall game.
- Gain new skills to be able to play a game of tennis

Design Technology – As designers we will :

- Compare and evaluate existing story books.
- Design and create a storybook.
- Evaluate our design.

French - we will learn how to:

- Describe ourselves and others.
- Say what I and others have.

Maths - As mathematicians we will :

- Convert between different units of measure.
- Solve simple measure and money problems.
- Estimate, compare and calculate different measures.
- Compare and classify geometric shapes, based on their properties and sizes.
- Identify acute and obtuse angles and compare and order angles up to two right angles by size.
- Identify lines of symmetry in 2-D shapes presented in different orientations.
- Describe positions on a 2-D grid as coordinates in the first quadrant.
- Describe movements between positions as translations of a given unit to the left/right and up/down.
- Plot specified points and draw sides to complete a given polygon.

English – As writers and communicators we will :

- Be writing diary entries and persuasive letters based around the novel 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe.'
- Empathise with the characters from the book.
- Write character descriptions of the different characters we are introduced to throughout the story.

RPSHE - as caring citizens we will:

- Know the threats that the environment faces and what we can do to help.
- Learn the correct use of medicines and how vaccinations and immunisations can help to maintain health and wellbeing.
- Learn about some of the risks and effects of legal and illegal drug use.

Music - As musicians we will :

- Explore a range of musical genres.
- Compose our own piece of music fitting with a 'gospel' genre.
- Listen and appraise different pieces of music.
- Compare pieces of music using key musical terminology.

History - As historians we will :

- Investigate who the Maya were, when and where they lived in the world.
- Explore the writing and number system.
- Learn about the different beliefs that they held as well as their religious rituals.
- Investigate the impact that they had on the food we eat today.
- Explore the difference between secondary and primary sources and how these help our understanding.

Geography - As geographers we will :

- Use maps, atlases and computers to locate rainforests on the world map and explore the key geographical features.
- We will develop our vocabulary relating to rainforests and understand their features.
- We will use a range of sources to help us to understand settlements and land use, economic activity and use of natural resources.
- We will explore the effect humans have on the environment.

Computing - we will :

- Create an animation and discuss different types of animation.
- Learn about onion skinning and how to add backgrounds and sounds.
- Understand the different parts that make up a computer.
- Electronically compose a piece of music.

Art - As artists we will :

- Design our own shoe with a target audience and purpose.
- Create a 3D mould of a shoe out of tape and tissue paper.
- Use fabric and PVA glue to create our own fabric.