

## Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 2015/2016 - Summer 2

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a lovely Easter, and a relaxing week off. As we head into the summer term, I am looking forward to more frequent opportunities to get out into the school's fantastic grounds for some outdoor learning across the subjects. I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different topics. We are continuing with the new curriculum this academic year. If you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me. Mr Copenhall.

### Catholic life of the school

This half term we will be continuing with our class masses. Each Tuesday two classes will join with the parish to celebrate Mass at 9am. Year 6 and Reception, Year 5 and Year 1, Year 3 and Year 2 and Year 4 will join the parish. Please look out for dates on the weekly newsletter or on the school website.

Each day the children will take part in collective worship. Whole school collective worship begins our week every Monday, followed by class collective worships led by the teachers and children on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Fridays there is a key stage assembly.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

This term we are looking forward to our annual Walk of Faith when local schools and churches come together to celebrate Padgate Walking Day. Also our Year 4 children will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and Communion in May and then celebrating this special time with all of the school on St Peter's and Paul's Celebration Day later in the term. Please keep the children in your thoughts and prayers at this special time.

### Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we will continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes. Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Healthy snack days will continue to be Monday to Friday and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes.

### Information and dates to remember:

- Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> April - Year 3 class assembly
- School is closed for the Bank Holiday on Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May and for Polling day on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> May.
- Year 6 SATs week 9-13 May
- Class Photographs 16<sup>th</sup> May
- May Procession- TBC

### Homework information

- **English homework** will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

- **Spellings** will be given out on a Tuesday and tested the following Monday, in addition to a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work and working in their Spelling Logs.

- **Maths homework** will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

- **Reading** Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

### Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day.

Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the Junior gate and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

## Year 4

### General Class Information

#### Big Maths

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week.

Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

*Remember we are going for green!*

#### Reading

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Our class reader for this half term is 'Henry's Freedom Box' by Ellen Levine.

Home reading records are checked and once a week their home reading is acknowledged and a target will be highlighted in the book.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

This year as part of our new 3 year Improvement Plan, we are particularly focusing on 'Reading'. As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

**The school continues to run an early doors reading club (£2) 8am - 8:45am each morning. Open to all!**

#### Grammar Hammer

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Grammar Hammer' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their SPAG folders (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will be focusing on one grammar aspect each week.

Please encourage your child to use their folders to practise different areas of grammar at every opportunity.



RE - Spring term topics**New Life**

This topic will allow the children to explore how people can receive new life from God, and look at examples from the bible.

**Building Bridges**

The children will be learning about relationships and how God can work through any difficulties that can happen within relationships. They will also be exploring their own relationship with Jesus.

**God's People**

The children will be looking at and investigating God's people from across the globe, and how they can help and support those less fortunate than themselves.

**The children in Year 4 will be celebrating the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at Mass on either Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 6pm.**

Science - Electricity

- Identify common appliances that run on electricity and explain why it is needed for their purpose.
- Construct a variety of different circuits, identifying the basic components.
- Work scientifically by investigating different factors that can affect a lamp's brightness in a circuit.
- Recognise how a switch can contribute to the practicality of a circuit and the different components that can act as a switch.
- Recognise some common conductors and insulators, as well as associating metals with being good conductors.

EnglishReading

- Use dictionaries to check the meaning and spelling of words.
- Continue to listen to and discuss a range of fiction, non-fiction and reference books.
- Read, listen to and discuss a range of traditional poetry.
- Discuss words, phrases and uses of grammar that capture the reader's interest and imagination.
- Read a variety of texts each day, including books, newspapers and leaflets.
- Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
- Checking that the text makes sense to them, explaining the meaning of words in context, asking questions to improve their understanding of a text.
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction and participate in discussion about both books.

Writing

- Use organisational devices e.g. headings, sub headings, bullet points and lists.
- Compose and rehearse sentences orally, building a rich vocabulary and a range of sentence structures.
- Assess effectiveness of their own and the writing of others, and look to suggest ways of 'up-staging' it.

Grammar and punctuation

- Vary sentence structure by expressing time and cause using conjunctions and prepositions.
- Correct use of past and present tense.
- Revision of apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling.
- Lists, bullet points, headings and sub headings to aid presentation.
- Continue to improve verbs using adverbs to aid interest.
- Develop use of interesting adjectives to aid impact.
- Consistently use paragraphs appropriately.

Spelling

- Work through the stage four spellings and apply them in their written work.
- Continue to develop accurate use of prefixes and suffixes.
- Identify and practice any weaknesses within the high frequency words.

MathematicsNumber - number and place value

- Count on from 0 in multiples of 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 50 and 100.
- Find 10, 100, and 1000 more/less than a given number.
- Solve number problems involving multiples and 10 and 100 and 1000 more/less.

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers mentally - 4 digit number and tens/hundreds.
- Add and subtract numbers with up to 4 digits, using formal written methods of columnar addition and subtraction.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems, including missing number problems.

Multiplication and division

- Recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 times tables.
- Recall multiplication facts for 7 and 8 times table.

Fractions

- Solve measure and money problems using fractions.
- Simplify fractions, as well as adding and subtracting fractions.
- Round 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number.

Measurement

- Solve problems, add and subtract amounts of money to give change.
- Know the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and leap year.
- Accurately tell the time, and solves problems relating to it.

Geometry - properties of shapes

- Identify 2D shapes, recognise them different orientations and describe their properties.
- Plot specific points and draw sides to complete a given shape.

Geography

- Name and locate several cities in the United Kingdom including Liverpool.
- Identify the different impacts humans have had on a city through the architecture.
- Research how the geographical traits of a city can impact its development.
- Explore how inter-city trade is developed and improved.
- Investigate different uses of land use within a city and make links with the economic benefits of the different uses.
- Apply their knowledge of city characteristics in planning their own settlement.

PE

This half term the children will be moving towards applying their learning in team games. These will incorporate skills such as:

- Accurately throwing and catching using a variety of techniques.
- Hand - eye coordination when using sports equipment.
- Combining side steps with front and reverse pivots.
- Skipping with high elbows and high knees.

They will be advancing in their own personal skills by asking for help when appropriate, and trying several times if at first they don't succeed.

PSHCE

Body awareness / Local environment

- They will also be learning about the local environment, and how they can enjoy and protect it.
- The children will be continuing to learn about themselves as they continue to develop.

Topic Title**Robust Robots***What makes them tick?*Computing

This half term the children will be learning about algorithms and programmes.

They will be learning a variety of skills including:

- Being able to following a specific sequence, using clear and precise instructions.
- Debugging a programme when it does not have the desired outcome, through accurately locating and altering an unwanted or incorrect instruction.

Art

The children will be exploring the illustrations of our class book, and investigating the different techniques used to produce it. They will then try to apply these techniques to their own drawings and illustrations.

DT

- Investigate electrical circuits and the basic components needed to make them work.
- Decide upon a style of robot that they want to make, and how they could incorporate an electrical circuit into this design.
- Use a variety of engineering skills to create the shell of the robot ensuring appropriate spaces for their circuit to be harnessed.
- Construct the circuit and integrate it into their robot model.
- Use finishing techniques on their robots.

Music

- Research a variety of Eucharist related songs.
- Work collectively to decide upon an appropriate class song.
- Practise and self-evaluate the quality of our class song, before suggesting improvements.
- Explore different techniques for delivering a song to an audience and incorporate these into our own performance.