

## Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 2016/2017 - Spring 2

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your child, had a very enjoyable half term, and I would like to welcome you back to school. I really enjoyed being able to spend time with you all at the recent parent's evening, and I hope you found it interesting looking through what your child has been doing in school. For this spring half term I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects. If you wish to know more about it visit the DfE website, the school website or speak with me. Kind regards, Mr Coppenhall.

### Catholic life of the school

On a Monday, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together as a whole school, on Wednesday, we end the week coming together as a key stage, in assembly. In class the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

Each Thursday at 2.45pm, we hold a Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class with parents, family and friends. The children will also attend Mass as a whole school, as well as having the opportunity to have a class Mass either in Church or in their classrooms

The Wednesday Word is available for each 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.

Also this term the children will be involved in charity work during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the Good Shepherd Appeal for Nugent Care. We will also be raising funds for 'Mission Together' which supports international charity work, with our little red boxes going home, to be brought back after Easter.

The prayer bags going home this half term will change to purple, for Lent. The children have been enjoying their time with the prayer bags at home with their families and completing the class books.

### 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

### Information and dates to remember:

Return to School Mon 27/4/17  
Wed 1/3/17 - Ash Wednesday Mass 9.30am Church  
Thu 2/3/17 - World Book day - Costume clothes day  
Fri 17/3/17 - Year 4 class Mass at 2.30pm  
Thurs 6/4/17 - Movie Night  
Fri 7/4/17 - Cake sale organised by y4  
Tue 11/4/17 - Passion play  
Wed 12/4/17 - Break up at 3.30pm for Easter

### 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.

We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables and be rewarding with bronze, silver and gold stickers on our tables charts.

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 'Can You Catch a Mermaid?' by Jane Ray.

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.

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 fortnightly '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**

**Self-Discipline**

The children will be learning about Lent and how and why people prepare and behave during this time of self-discipline.

**Eucharist**

The children will be looking towards their first holy communion, and will be learning about all the different aspects that go into the Communion Mass, in order to prepare themselves completely.

**Please see the RE Newsletter on the school website for more information.**

**Science- Living Things**

- Identify and explain the seven characteristics of living things, and how their habitat is suited to their different needs.
- Classify different living things, using keys to help easy identification.
- Work scientifically by investigating mini-beasts within the school grounds, and focus on the habitat they are found in.
- Recall and build on previous knowledge of food webs.
- Discuss and debate the effect of humans on the habitat of other living things.
- Research the different measures that can be taken to help sustainable management of habitats.

**English**

**Reading**

- Use dictionaries to check the meaning and spelling of words.
- Continue to listen to and discuss a range of fiction, nonfiction 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.

**Mathematics**

**Number - 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**

- Recognise, find and write fractions of a number and equivalent fractions.
- Identifying similarities in fractions before simplifying them.
- Round 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number.
- Converting fractions into decimals, and percentages.
- Adding and subtracting fractions.

Apply fractions in money problems.

**Measurement**

- 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.
- Identifying and classifying quadrilaterals.

History

We will be continuing to focus on the Roman's with an emphasis on their legacy in Britain but across the world as well.

- Look at and research well known Roman structures.
- Focus on roads, and towns created and improved by the Romans.
- Research technology used by the Romans in their buildings and their daily lives.
- Visit Chester, to examine the different clothing and techniques used in the Roman army.

PSHCE

-The children will be looking at how they will grow and change and how this can impact how they see themselves, and how they see others. There will be a focus on having respect for everyone.

Art

- The children will be looking at imagery worlds, and creating collages of the different characters, settings, villains, and equipment that can be found in them.
- They will also be working to apply their artistic ability to their DT project. (see below)

Topic Title

**Robust Romans**

PE

- The children will be swimming each week on a Tuesday morning. Here they will be taught and supervised by professional swimming teachers as well as myself.
  - Over the course the children will be working towards achieving their KS2 swimming certificate as well as learning valuable lifesaving water skills.
  - The children will also be working with the Warrington Wolves developing their skills in tag rugby on a Wednesday afternoon.
- Please ensure the correct PE kits are in school every day.

Computing

- The children will learn how they can create content for the web.
- We will be looking at the potential risks of using the internet and how they can best protect themselves when being online.
- They will look at how easily web content can be changed and lead them into thinking about the reliability of information that can be found on the web.

DT

- Investigate Roman chariots, why they were made, how they work and the advantages they gave to the Romans.
- Research how a chariot could be created with materials available today.
- Design a functioning chariot, with annotations.
- Use simple manufacturing and finishing skills to create a functioning chariot.
- Evaluate and improve their chariot.
- Decorate their chariot with Roman appropriate colour schemes.

Music

- The children will be working with Glockenspiels to begin to read simple music notes. They will put this into practise and start to play some simple songs with the Glockenspiels.
- They will begin to evaluate their own performances and the performances of others.