



St
Charles

CATHOLIC
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7th September 2021

Your child in Year 3/4D - Autumn 2021

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I'd like to take this opportunity to welcoming back Year 4s into 34D, and welcoming Year 3s not only into our classroom, but into KS2! I hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer with your families and loved ones.

Below you will find a brief outline of the curriculum areas we will be covering up until Christmas. This information should assist with your child's home studies, extending and enhancing their learning in the following areas.

English:

Reading and Writing:

Fiction: The children will read and study a variety of stories set in the past and fantasy stories with real settings. After analysing the language and structure of a range of styles, children will have the opportunity to develop their own creative writing and evaluate their work and that of others. We will also look at stories that include issues and dilemmas.

Non-Fiction: The children will study reports and diaries and use their taught persuasive skills to have whole class debates.

Writing: We will continue to work on basic skills, which will include regular handwriting practice, work on phonics, spellings and vocabulary as well as working on grammar and punctuation.

Reading remains a vital aspect of your child's education. It becomes very evident in children's writing when they read regularly. Thus, to best support your child, please ensure they read at home every evening. This can be from a variety of texts including news articles and chapter books. Children are required to complete their reading records, but I kindly ask if you could check and sign them regularly (**at least three times every week**) to confirm that they are reading. These will be checked every Friday.

Speaking and Listening:

Children will contribute to a range of discussions, presentations and conversations and develop skills. We will work on listening and debating skills and use these to respond to texts, discussions and interactions. Drama activities will also be used to explore language, texts and situations. There will be regular guided reading lessons where a text is discussed and reading skills are developed.

Maths:

The topics we will be covering this term are:

Year 3: Number sense and exploring calculation strategies- Solve number and practical problems, including estimation and checking; add and subtract money to give change in pounds and pence.

Place Value- Identify, represent and estimate numbers in different contexts, recognise and use place value of 3-digit numbers in calculations.

Graphs- Interpret and present data using charts and tables. Solve one and two-step problems using presented information. Addition and subtraction - calculate mentally and using formal written methods; solve problems using number facts and place value.

Length and perimeter- Measure, compare, add/ subtract lengths; solve problems using appropriate tools and units.

Year 4: Reasoning with 4-digit numbers- Solve number and practical problems with increasingly large numbers; identify, represent and estimate using different representations.

Addition and subtraction- Calculate and estimate numbers with up to 4 digits using formal written methods; solve two-step problems, deciding on appropriate methods.

Multiplication and division- Understand and use distributive law; use place value to calculate mentally; use formal written method to multiply two and three-digits numbers by one-digit numbers.

Discrete and continuous data-solving, compare, calculate, interpret and present data using appropriate graphical methods; understand line graphs.

RE:

The topics for this term are: **Homes, St Charles and Visitors.**

The Wednesday Word is also available online each week. Please spend some time sharing it with your child and discussing the Gospel of that Sunday and its message for us.

Science:

Animals including humans - Children will learn about food and their bodies. This topic teaches children the importance of the right type and amount of nutrition as well as the functions of skeletons and muscles. They will understand that plants and animals obtain food in different ways as well as identify the right types and demonstrate they understand the right amounts of nutrients for animals including humans. Children will then name the different types of skeletons as well as identify and categorise animals based on the type of skeleton it has. They will look at the main bones in the body and how a

skeleton protects, supports and helps the body to move before explaining how pairs of muscles work together to enable movement.

Rocks - In this unit, children will discover different types of rocks and how they are formed. Children will compare and group rocks based on appearance and simple properties. They will understand how soil is formed and then investigate the permeability of different types of soil.

Computing:

This term in Computing, children will be learning how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly; whilst recognising acceptable/unacceptable behaviour and identifying a range of ways to report concerns about content and contact. Not only will they be learning about safety through 'Internet Scenario cards', they will also focus on the unit of work: 'I Can Use Block Coding' where they will learn how to use logical reasoning to explain how some simple algorithms work as well as detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs. As part of our Computer Science learning, children will be learning how to use 'Scratch' where they will learn how to design, write and debug programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems and solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts.

Topic:

This half term, the children will study Ancient Egypt. After half term and in the lead up to Christmas, we will explore the geographical unit 'In the Desert'. It will include various aspects of the curriculum in particular history, geography, art, design and technology.

Geography:

Children will use evidence and source information to respond to a range of questions. Children will learn about the main events and people that reside in deserts all over the world.

They will build on geographical information in a variety of ways, including maps and writing. Children will use an atlas, globe, and map to locate counties, cities and regions whilst developing a wider geographical vocabulary using terms to describe places or geographical features.

History:

Children will study a range of similarities/differences between time in the past in Egypt and today. They will describe how the past can be represented or interpreted in different ways and to describe some of the main events that occurred in Egypt at that time.

Art/Design and Technology:

The children will construct their own timelines. They will focus on one area of the Egyptian period and plan and make Canopic Jars and decorate these with hieroglyphs. We will also develop our skills using our sketch books to plan, sketch and evaluate.

Music:

The children will sing songs with control and use the voice expressively through a variety of singing songs and games which will encourage them to use the thinking voice (internalising) They will use known songs to develop control of pulse and rhythm; improvise rhythmic patterns; develop understanding of pitch and follow pitch with voice and instruments.

Spanish:

The children will learn and revise core vocabulary in Spanish through activities and songs. Topics will include greetings, numbers, colours, family members, classroom instructions, shapes and Christmas. They will practise reading, including key phonics, and writing words and sentences and begin to explore key grammatical features such as gender and plural/singular and agree adjectives. They will learn about Spanish Christmas traditions.

PHSE and RSE:

Children will explore the topics of Religious Understanding, Healthy Lifestyles, Keeping Safe, and Emotions and Feelings. Children will also explore 'What's on in the news?' where we will keep up with some of the important current affairs stories.

PE:

This half term, children will take part in Invasion Games on Thursday afternoons.

Please note that enhanced cleaning of all equipment before and after use will be conducted to avoid cross contamination.

To mitigate any risk of students coming into contact with one another, pupils are to wear their PE kits to school on a Thursday only to minimise changing. This will also help to ensure any items are less likely to get lost or misplaced.

The children will be expected to arrive in school on the day of their PE sessions in their full St Charles PE kit; which is a St Charles/plain white t-shirt, navy shorts/bottoms and trainers. Children are **NOT** to wear football kits.

After half term, the children will take part in gymnastic sessions, where again, the children will be required to wear their full St. Charles PE kit. Please ensure your child has a bottle of water.

Homework:

Children will usually be set formal homework three times a week as follows:

- Spellings on a Monday to be tested on Friday,
- Maths on a Wednesday to be completed by Friday,
- English on a Friday to be completed by the following Monday.

- On some occasions, unfinished class work may be sent home to be completed for the next day. This work will be explained to your child in class, but I would appreciate it if you could supervise the task, drawing attention to issues such as handwriting, presentation and content. Each piece of work should take no more than 20-30 minutes. Additional pieces of homework may be set on other days.

I also intend to set some English or Maths homework on *Google Classroom* on a regular basis. Your child has been shown how to access this but please let me know if you have any problems.

I am looking forward to working with you and your child this year and hope for a successful year ahead.

Mrs. G. Desmond
Year 3/4 Class Teacher