

January 2024

**Your Child in 5M: Spring Term**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you have had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. Below is an outline of what your child will be studying until Easter along with information about routines and expectations.

**English**

**Writing**

This term, we will be focusing on a variety of genres including: Narratives and Argument Texts, Science texts and Shakespeare. We will also look at the audience and purpose of writing, prediction, selecting appropriate form, proofing and editing skills. Children will draw on their reading and research skills to develop their own ideas and improve their writing.

**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 each day. This can be from a variety of texts but should include a novel or a chapter book with an appropriate level of challenge and children should be able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the texts that they are reading. I am happy for children to fill in their own reading records, but ask that you check and sign them regularly (at least two times each week) to confirm that they are reading.

In school, children will continue to take part in weekly guided reading sessions, using a range of texts, in order to further develop their inference and deduction skills as well as drawing on and identifying the main points in the text.

**Spelling** continues to be an important part of your child’s learning. We will particularly focus on

spelling rules and patterns. Weekly spelling homework and testing will help to develop your child’s skills in this area.

**Maths**

This term, the children in year 5 will be covering the following maths topics:

* Perimeter and Area
* Fractions and Decimals
* Percentages
* Angles

**R.E.**

This term, we will be covering the following topics:

* **Mission**
* Making links between how Jesus undertook his mission to share the good news and how each diocese continues that mission and work today.
* Showing an understanding of how dioceses and different Christian communities carry out the work and mission of Jesus by making links to scripture.
* **Memorial Sacrifice**
* Making links between the Passover, the Last Supper and belief in the Eucharist.
* Using religious vocabulary to give reasons for religious actions and symbols connected to the Passover and celebration of the Eucharist.
* Showing an understanding of scripture, beliefs, ideas, feelings and experiences and making links between them.
* **Sacrifice**
* Making links to how feelings and beliefs affect giving and refusing to give.
* Comparing their own and other people’s ideas about the cost of giving.
* Showing an understanding of a range of scripture stories, beliefs, ideas and feelings about the sacrifice of Jesus and his resurrection and making links between them.

**Computing:**

**Blogging: Can you finish my story?**

Children will:

* Use J2e software effectively to create, design and manipulate for purposeful outcomes.
* Communicate and collaborate through an online blog, demonstrating respectful and safe behaviours,

**Spreadsheets: Simply delicious**

Children will:

* Understand the basic conventions of a spreadsheet.
* Collect, analyse and draw conclusions from data through manipulating a spreadsheet.

**Science:**

This term, children will explore the topic of **Properties and Changes of Materials**, including:

* Grouping materials
* Thermal insulators and conductors
* Electrical insulators and conductors
* Dissolving
* Separating materials

**Topic**

**Geography-Investigating Rivers**

Children will develop an understanding of rivers, their uses, features and the effect they have on the environment. Children will study the water cycle, find out how rivers are formed, explore the journey of a river from source to mouth, investigate why rivers are important, consider the effects of river pollution and conduct a geographical enquiry into a chosen river from around the world.

**History- What lead to the Battle of Hastings?**

Through historical enquiry, children will ask questions, explore and evaluate sources and artefacts, and make reasoned judgements about the past in order to consider the significance and impact of events leading up to the Battle of Hastings.

**Art**

**Art from Western Africa**

Children will explore the spiritual purpose and significance of many African works of art, ceremonial masks and cultural changes reflected in artwork. They will also be using 3d mixed media to design and create relief sculptures.

**DT**

The children will design, make and evaluate a Mars Buggy Rover.

**P.E:**

During this term, the students will have coached sessions where they will gain various skills in a variety of multi-sports activities and dance and gymnastics. PE will take place every **Friday** and children are expected to arrive at school wearing their full St Charles PE kit on this day.

**Music**

In “Pop Music 1: Arrangements + Improvisation (Ukulele)”, Year 5 students explore the world of popular music, focusing on arrangements and improvisation using the ukulele. This unit aligns with the curriculum's objective of nurturing composition and improvisation skills.

* Pupils begin creating their arrangements and experimenting with improvisation, gaining valuable experience that prepares them for more intricate composition and performance tasks in subsequent years.
* They will be able to play a melody following staff notation written on one stave and using notes within an octave range (do–do).
* They will begin to understand how triads are formed and play them on tuned percussion, melodic instruments or keyboards, and will perform simple, chordal accompaniments to familiar songs.

**Spanish**

Children will:

* Learn to classify animals in Spanish according to their characteristics (herbivore/carnivore, wild/domesticated)
* Develop descriptions
* Give opinions
* Say, read and write increasingly complex and accurate sentences
* Learn key grammar such as conjunctions, prepositions

**PSHE**

Children will explore the topics of:

* Life cycles
* Keeping safe
* Democracy

**Homework**

As a reminder, homework will generally be as follows:

Monday Spellings (to be handed in on Friday)

Tuesday Maths (to be handed in by Thursday)

Friday English + any Topic work (to complete over the weekend)

It will be explained to your child how to access their homework. In addition to set homework, children will be asked to complete any unfinished class work at home.

**Stationary**

Where possible, please ensure your child has their own pencil case containing: pencils, a rubber, a sharpener, coloured pencils, a ruler and a glue stick. Children should also bring a clearly labelled water bottle to school each day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly via the class email address (5M@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk). Alternatively, please request a call back by contacting the office.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Best Wishes,

Miss Mannion

5M Class Teacher