



Important dates:

- Wednesday 22nd January – Year 4 leave at 9.00am for Mass at 9.30am at St Monica's (Feast of St Vincent)
- Friday 31st January – Years 4, 5 & 6 'A Star is Born' show at 7pm.
- W/C Monday 3rd February – Children's Mental Health Week

How can you help at home?

Encourage your child to read at home and where possible, hear them read and discuss their reading with them.

Check that they have completed their homework.

Encourage them to play on TT Rockstars to develop their times tables knowledge.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back. We would like to thank you all very much for our extremely thoughtful and generous Christmas cards and presents. Most of the children have already replenished their pencil cases for this half term. Just in case they have not already done so, please ensure the children have blue biro's, HB pencils and colouring pencils and pens. It would also be very useful for them to have their own glue stick and at least one whiteboard pen so that they are ready to take part in lessons. Thank you.

The Year 4 Team

In RE this half term...

Our topic is called 'Galilee to Jerusalem' and we will be learning:

- The names of the prayers on a set of Rosary Beads and be able to match them to the correct.
- The Feast of the Assumption
- Some of Jesus' actions in and around Galilee.
- The parable of the prodigal son, and make connections with Christian beliefs about God's mercy and forgiveness.

Key vocabulary: Rosary beads, Glory Be, Nicene Creed, Feast of the Assumption, miracle, parable, mercy, forgiveness.

Useful websites:

Geography

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztbcbmn/articles/zk6fydm>

History

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqtf34j/articles/z9j4kqt>

Year 4
Spring 2

In English ('Libba' by Laura Viers)

Our new Power of Reading book focuses on the life of the African American folk singer Elizabeth Cotton. The well-known song 'Freight Train' was written by her. We will look at some of the obstacles and struggles Elizabeth Cotton encountered as a result of segregation. We shall study the lives of other notable individuals who have contributed to society and continue to do so in order to further the cause of equality. The children will learn how to create their own biography on a significant, influential figure of their choice.

In science...

We will identify how sounds are made and that vibrations from a sound travel through a medium (e.g. air, solids, water) to the ear. We will explore the structure and function of different parts of the ear. The children will be learning and using vocabulary such as 'pitch' and 'volume'. They will also be recognising that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.

In PE...

Please come into school wearing your PE kit on Wednesdays (for outside PE) and Thursdays (inside). Our games topic is called: Controlling and Receiving. The children develop simple attacking tactics using a range of equipment and skills, and start to think about how to organise themselves to defend their goals. Our gymnastics topic is called 'Balance'.

In history...

Our new topic is called 'Roman Britain'. We will be learning about the Roman invasion of Britain and how it became a province of the Roman Empire. Different Celtic tribes fought back, trying to stop this Roman control and we will be exploring some of these battles in class. The children will identify the ways in which the Romans adapted Britain (e.g. by creating Roman towns and building large baths as they did not have bathrooms in their own houses).

In geography...

Our topic is called 'Coastal processes and landforms'. We will identify that, through the process of erosion, the shapes of the coastlines in the UK are all different. The children will learn about the processes of transportation and deposition. Transportation is when the sea transports materials that have eroded. Deposition is when the sea deposits this material on our beaches, leaving sand, little pebbles and rocks behind. We will learn about different types of landforms (bays, cliffs, headlands and beaches) and how erosion and deposition have contributed to their formation.

In RHE...

The children will develop a base-level understanding of what puberty is and why we go through it. This session is a precursor to the session which will follow called 'Changing Bodies' which will look specifically at some of the changes that boys and girls will face when they enter puberty. Through the roleplay drama and presenter-led video, children should come out of this session knowing that puberty is part of God's plan for our bodies and that they can embrace the changes with confidence.

In maths...

Our focus is multiplication and division. We will:

- Multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Multiply a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Divide a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Divide a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number.

In art...

Our topic is called 'Painting and mixed media: light and dark'. The children will be developing their skills in colour mixing, focusing on using tints (when you add white to coloured paint) and shades (when you add black to coloured paint) to create a 3D effect. Furthermore, we will be experimenting with composition and applying painting techniques to a personal still life piece.

In computing...

Our topic is called: Google: Creating media: Website design.

The children will be able to:

- Use most of the tabs (e.g. insert, pages, themes) on Google Sites on their website.
- Create a clear plan for their web page and begin to create it.
- Create a professional looking web page with useful information and a clear style, which is easy for the user to read and find information from.
- Create a clear plan by referring back to their checklist.
- Create four web pages with a range of features on their website.