ST ALBERT THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 4

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

2016-2017

STAFF – Mrs Wickens
Mrs Ansell
Mrs Nolan

English

Autumn Term

Narrative: Traditional Tales
Myths

Non-fiction: Reports

Poetry: Read, write and perform free verse
Read and write riddles

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Punctuation/Grammar: Understanding tenses.
Using powerful verbs.
Identifying adverbs.

Spring Term

Narrative: Write and perform a play, based on familiar story .
Write a narrative, focussing on settings.

Non-fiction: Persuasive writing

Poetry: Read, write and perform free verse
Recite narrative poetry by heart

Punctuation/Grammar: Using adjectives and adjectival phrases.
Using the apostrophe accurately.
Recognises how commas, connectives and full stops are used to join and separate clauses.

Summer Term

Fiction and Poetry: Stories with a theme

Non-fiction: Discussion - present 2 sides of an argument
Explanatory text

Poetry: Read, write and perform free verse
Research a particular poet
Recite poems by heart

Punctuation/Grammar: Identify common punctuation marks including commas, semi colons, colons, dashes, hyphens, speech marks, and to respond to them appropriately when reading.

Maths

Numeracy concepts and skills are introduced and revised throughout the year.

Number

Place value, ordering and rounding.
Properties of number and number sequences.
Fractions, decimals and percentages, ratio and proportion.
Read Roman numerals to 100

Calculation

Rapid recall of addition and subtraction facts.
Mental calculation strategies (x and ÷).
Pencil and paper strategies (x and ÷).
Understanding multiplication and division.
Rapid recall of multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12
Mental calculations (+ and -)
Pencil and paper procedures (+ and -)
Using a calculator.
Checking results of calculations.

Solving Problems

Making decisions (choose and use appropriate operations to solve problems and appropriate ways of calculating).
Reasoning and generalising about numbers or shapes.
Problems involving 'real life' money and measures.

Geometry - shapes, position and direction

Measure — know and use the relationship between familiar units of length (mm, cm, m, km), mass (g, kg) and capacity (ml, l).

10mm = 1cm, 100 cm = 1m, 1000mm = 1m, 1000g = 1kg, 1000ml = 1l

Shape - know all regular and irregular shape names and their properties I.e. faces, edges, vertices, lines of symmetry, order of symmetry.

Space — co-ordinates and directions.

Statistics

Organising, presenting and interpreting data using a range of graphs.

Science

Throughout the year the children will carry out observational studies, investigations and practical enquiries to support their scientific learning in the following areas:

Autumn Term

Sound

How sound is made - sound travels through a medium to the ear
Finding pattern through the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations

Electricity

This unit builds on children's previous experience of making Circuits and extends their understanding of circuits, conductors and insulators and the need for a complete circuit in order for a devise to work.

Spring Term

Animals (including humans)

Simple functions of the digestive system
Identifying different types of teeth
Food chain

States of matter

Learning the differences between solids, liquids and gases and recognising that the same material can exist as both solid, liquid and gas.
Water cycle –evaporation + condensation

Summer Term

Living things and their habitats

How habitats provide organisms found there with conditions for life and how animals depend on plants or other animals which eat plants for food.

Computing

Computing features in all aspects of the curriculum. Children will use a variety of software on a range of devices.

Children will be taught to design, write and debug programmes that accomplish specific goals.

Topic

Term 1: The Egyptians

Term 2: Rivers and Mountain

Term 3; The Arts

Key vocabulary for Maths

You can help your child by discussing core vocabulary which will be encountered each term to help build confidence and familiarity.

Number

Tally
group
odd, even
multiple
sequence
predict
continue
pattern
relationship
positive
negative
rule
estimate
roughly
exactly
approximately
consecutive
alternate
square number
digit
equivalent

Calculations

increase
decrease
difference
calculate
operation
reasonable
solution
method
product
column
remainder
whole
fraction
mixed number
quarter
eighth
third
sixth
tenth
decimal

Time / Data Handling

a.m.
p.m.
months
calendar
digital
earliest
minute
second
questionnaire
classify
tally
frequency
axis
interval
Caroll diagram
Venn diagram
diagram
possible
probable

Measures, shape

height / depth
width / breadth
distance
scale
capacity
reflective
symmetry
obtuse
axis of symmetry
reflective symmetry
pyramid
sphere/spherical
prism
pentagon
hexagon
octagon
vertices
clockwise
anticlockwise

Key vocabulary for Science

You can help your child by discussing core vocabulary which will be encountered each term to help build confidence and familiarity.

Continuous

estimate
predict
fair test
evidence
measure
relationship
describe
explain
conclusion

Autumn Term

metal
plastic
circuit
conductor
insulator
electricity
power
cell
battery
switch
devise
thermal
materials
natural material

Spring Term

force
gravity
resistance
mass / weight
Newton
Newton meter
upthrust
motion
surface area
friction
skeleton
muscle
ribs
spine
skull
contract
contraction
relax
vertebrate
mammal
reptile
bird / fish
amphibian

Summer Term

habitat
nutrition
condition
organism
predator
prey
producer
consumer
food chain
key
herbivore
carnivore
adapt
adaptation
solid
particle
dissolve
melt
evaporate
condense
condensation
degrees Celsius
mixture

Helping your child at home

Homework

Homework will be set at the beginning of the half term and this will take the form of open ended tasks, that will support and enrich the learning taking place at school.
See half-termly homework sheet on the class page of the school website.

In addition, children will be set weekly spellings and should read daily with an adult.

P.E.

PE will usually take place on a Thursday. Kit should be in school at all times. Swimming kit is needed on a Friday.

Reading

It is important that your child reads regularly at home. It is suggested that this is about 20 minutes each night. This should include a wide range of text (novels, short stories, newspapers, topic books). In the Autumn term, the children will work on their 'Olympic Challenge'. This aims to encourage and motivate the children to read a wide range of genres, with tasks to complete related to their reading.

The children will be introduced to the 'Round the World Challenge', which

In addition to this, children will read weekly in their Guided Reading group.

News

We will watch a children's version of a weekly round-up of the news, to develop a sense of citizenship. Please try and regularly discuss items of national and international news with your children.