

ST ALBERT THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



YEAR 6

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

2023 - 2024

TEACHER:

Mrs Sharp

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Mrs Adams and Mrs Territt (1:1)



By the time pupils reach Year 6, they should be organised and independent school pupils. With this in mind, they are given responsibilities within school to help staff and the younger pupils. All pupils are expected to show a greater sense of responsibility and be role-models for our younger children.

Year 6 pupils are expected to complete their reading records and homework independently, asking you to sign reading records at the end of each week. Pupils will be expected to read every evening, know their times-tables off-by-heart and learn the spellings set each week.

School uniform (as stated in the school policy) in Year 6 should be adhered to, showing an understanding of their responsibilities and respect at St Albert's. Jewellery, other than a non-smart watch and stud earrings, is not permitted. Please note that earrings should be removed or covered for PE or other active lessons.

The following pages will give you an overview of the learning that your child will be completing this year.

Please note that SATs week is 6th – 10th May. Please do not book any holidays (or family events) during this time.

Thank you



English

The English Curriculum in Year 6 is based on the National Curriculum 2014 and uses Herts-For-Learning planning.

Through the use of a wide range of media and stimuli, our aim is:

- To use reading skills to extend understanding of more complex text.
- To extend independent writing across a variety of genres.
- To extend and use a full range of grammar and punctuation skills.
- To further develop independent spelling strategies.
- To identify features of texts and develop a high level of reading skills

Speaking and Listening

Opportunities will be made across the curriculum for pupils to speak aloud, in groups or individually, to the whole class, whole school and other age groups for a variety of purposes;

- To develop powers of reasoning
- To develop powers of imagination, inventiveness and critical awareness
- To listen carefully and to make appropriate responses
- To express their own views and give opinions on a variety of topics

Reading

Reading should be something pupils enjoy and so they are encouraged to read a wide range of books in order to develop fluency and expression. They are encouraged to evaluate what they have read and justify their preferences. There are numerous opportunities during the school week to read, something which we believe is paramount for their progress, and they will be tested on their ability to understand the text they have read during guided reading lessons and for homework.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to read as widely as possible, selecting books from our library or using books from home, as well as being encouraged to read information books and public library books. They will bring home a free-readers book of their choice and a colour-code book levelled to support their comprehension. You may find that they will have two or three books they are reading, to allow us to ensure they are learning a wide range of vocabulary, text types and build their comprehension at the right level for them. We expect them to read daily, approximately 20-30 minutes, checking they have understood what they have read and any learn new vocabulary.

Writing

Pupils are encouraged to use a neat and well-formed style of joined writing following the school handwriting scheme. Presentation of written work is important and the pupils are required to use a handwriting pen for most of their work.

We give pupils the opportunity to express themselves clearly, to expand their written vocabulary and to develop imaginative ideas through:

- Classic fiction, poetry and drama
- Stories from more than one genre e.g. mystery, humour, sci-fi, historical, fantasy worlds.
- A range of poetic forms e.g. narrative, ballads, riddles, cinquain, haiku and free verse.
- Autobiography & Biography
- Diaries
- Journals
- Letters
- Persuasive writing
- Journalistic writing
- Discussion texts
- Non-chronological reports
- Records of observations
- Formal writing
- Public information documents
- Use of reference texts range of dictionaries, thesauruses including ICT sources

Pupils in Year 6 are given the opportunity to revise and improve independent spelling strategies using a variety of known strategies. The understanding of vocabulary in context is an important part of this area of learning and pupils are encouraged to use a dictionary and thesaurus, both from a book and using their Chromebook.

Pupils will build on and further develop Year 5 work in sentence level work, grammar and punctuation. This work will include:

- Active and passive verbs
- Understanding features of formal official language
- Note conventions of language
- Revise complex sentences
- Conjunctions
- Appropriate use of punctuation. Consolidate use of apostrophes, semi-colons, speech marks, dashes and brackets
- Hypotheses
- Revise summary, note taking and editing
- Revise spelling strategies, conventions and rules
- Vocabulary extension



Maths



Maths is based on the National Curriculum 2014 and uses White Rose planning. Our aim is to give confidence and competence with numbers and measures, using a wide range of resources and approaches, so we aim to develop:

- a working knowledge of the number system which can be applied to problem solving
- accurate computational skills
- the ability to use mental arithmetic strategies
- a practical understanding of the ways in which information is gathered and presented in charts such as graphs and tables

There is a dedicated Maths lesson each day which will include daily oral and mental work to secure strategies learnt and to promote rapid recall or to provide an opportunity for pupils to understand areas they need to work on. The children will also be encouraged to understand maths using manipulatives for support. This 'hands on' approach will enable them to access abstract concepts with greater confidence. At the start of each topic, the children will be given a 'cold task' to assess what they already know, they will then repeat this assessment at the end of the unit to gauge what they have learnt and allow us to support them with gaps that may still remain. Our Year 6 objectives are:

- 1 Use negative numbers to calculate intervals across zero
- 2 Divide numbers using long division, interpreting the remainders as appropriate
- 3 Use order of operations to carry out calculations
- 4 Use common factors to simplify fractions
- 5 Compare and order fractions of any size
- 6 Add and subtract fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers
- 7 Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions
- 8 Divide proper fractions by whole numbers
- 9 Calculate decimal fraction equivalents for simple fractions
- 10 Multiply a number with up to two decimal places by whole numbers
- 11 Use written division with answers of up to two decimal places
- 12 Solve problems involving the calculation of percentages
- 13 Recall and use equivalences between fractions, decimals and percentages
- 14 Solve problems using ratio using multiplication and division facts
- 15 Solve problems involving similar shapes where the scale factor is known
- 16 Solve problems involving proportion, using knowledge of fractions and multiples
- 17 Use simple formulae
- 18 Generate and describe linear number sequences
- 19 Express missing number problems algebraically
- 20 Convert units of measure between smaller and larger units
- 21 Convert between miles and kilometres
- 22 Calculate the area of parallelograms and triangles
- 23 Calculate and compare volume of cubes and cuboids
- 24 Illustrate and name parts of a circle
- 25 Finding missing angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and regular polygons
- 26 Recognise vertically opposite angles and find missing angles
- 27 Describe positions on the full co-ordinate grid
- 28 Translate shapes on a co-ordinate grid and reflect in the axes
- 29 Construct and interpret pie charts
- 30 Calculate the mean as an average



Science



In our Science teaching we aim to stimulate and excite our pupils' curiosity about the world around them. We base our curriculum on the Herts for Learning aims and objectives.

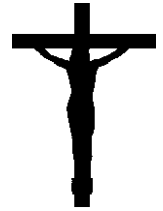
Lessons will include pupils independently setting up practical experiments, with consideration given to fair and comparative testing, writing up reports on the experiments and completing graphs and tables. They will be expected to research some aspects of the work. The lessons will be backed up with written work and diagrams.

The topics covered will include

- Working scientifically
- Living things and their habitats
- Animals including humans
- Evolution and inheritance
- Light
- Electricity



RE



We will be following the Catholic Come and See and The Catholic Social Teaching (Caritas) schemes. The Come and See scheme is divided into 3 topics each term, with the common theme running throughout the school. Caritas is divided into 7 topics focussing on skills we need for life and the works of the Catholic Community, closely following the topics in the Come and See scheme. There will also be two weeks during the year where we will look at other religions.

These topics are as follows:-

Autumn term:

Family: Loving

Belonging: Vocation and Commitment

Advent/Christmas - Loving

Spring Term:

Local Church - Community

Eucharist - Relating

Lent/Easter - Giving

Summer Term:

Pentecost - Serving

Reconciliation – Inter-relating

Universal Church – Common Good



Computing



The national curriculum for Computing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Can understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, logic, algorithms and data representation.
- Can analyse problems in computational terms, and have repeated practical experience of writing computer programs in order to solve such problems.
- Can evaluate and apply information technology, including new or unfamiliar technologies, analytically to solve problems.
- Are responsible, competent, confident and creative users of information and communication technology.

Computing Units

Be Internet Legends – Pupils will learn how to safely use computers and the internet.

Communication – Learning how to communicate safely and respectfully.

Web page Creation – Understanding how websites are created, including looking out for the pitfalls and the copyrights attached to them.

Variables in Games – Pupils will work on programming and coding techniques.

Introduction to Spreadsheets – Learning how to use spreadsheets effectively.

3D Modelling – Understand what this is and how to use it to create you own 3D model.

Sensing – Understanding using senses to programme and create a step counter.

Helping your child at home

Spellings

Spellings will be set and taught on a **Monday**. A task will be set on Google Classroom containing these spellings and will be due in on the **Friday** and be aimed at supporting their understanding of the words or how to spell the words – looking for spelling patterns. Each set of spellings should be practised using techniques such as Look, Write, Cover and Check or orally recalling the spellings to embed the vocabulary.

Homework Tasks

This year the children will be given regular, weekly homework which will help cover gaps in learning or consolidate work completed in English, Guided Reading and Maths. Each week they will receive this homework via Google Classroom, which will need to be turned in by the due date. This will usually be set on a Monday with a week to complete. It is essential that the children complete these tasks as they will be supporting them to achieve in their SATS. If they are unsure about how to complete the task, need support or just unable to access the work at home, please encourage them to come to our Homework club on a Friday lunch time. They will also have a four-weekly RE homework and termly homework for our topics.

Reading

It is important that your child reads regularly at home. We suggest 20-30 minutes each night. This should include a wide range of texts (novels, short stories, newspaper, topic books). The children will need to record their reading **at least five times a week in their reading record** which will be checked regularly in school.

News

Please encourage your child to show an interest in items of national and international news. Discussing these events helps to develop their skills of reasoning and confidence in their opinions. Watching Newsround, for instance, will help them to understand what is happening in the world at an age appropriate level.

Computing

Use of computers is encouraged for research and presentation (unless specifically indicated otherwise) and work may be completed using Google Classroom during lessons. This will be posted on Google Classroom under subjects and will be separate from the weekly and topic homework folders. Please do not complete the lessons prior to them being taught, however they will still be available on Google Classroom for you and your child to dip into for SATs revision if needed.

PE

Please make sure, however, your child has the appropriate labelled PE kit, including trainers, in school every day of the week. PE lessons are planned for a Monday and a Friday for this half-term, however this may change during the week due to other school activities. There are some sports clubs for your child to participate in should they choose too. On these days, please ensure that they bring the appropriate kit to school. Please ensure that shorts for PE are of an appropriate length and do not ride up.