



Welcome to Class 9's Spring Newsletter

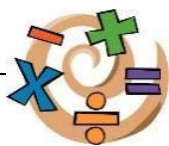


Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to begin by expressing how very proud we are of the Class 9 pupils for how much they have progressed and achieved in the Autumn term. All children have coped very well with the year 5 curriculum and it is so wonderful to see smiling faces come into the classroom every morning.

We said goodbye to Mrs Dennett as she left us to start her maternity and has since welcomed a beautiful baby boy! Our Class 9 team now consists of Mrs Barrett, Miss O'Connor, Mrs Wardell-Appleton and Mr Riley. The children have again impressed us and taken any chances in their stride.

Remember we continue to use Google Classroom for updates and messages and to add any work for those children who need to work from home for isolating reasons. If you have any problems, please come and speak to one of the team at the end of the school day.



Maths

This term we will cover a range of new mathematical topics. Our first will be a multiplication and division topic where we will focus on written methods and techniques, including solving real life problems and giving reasoning for our choices. Our second topic is a fractions topic. We will be covering areas such as: equivalent fractions, comparing fractions, converting, adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions and ending with fractions problems to solve. Our final maths topic this term will be decimals and percentages. We will be looking at decimals up to 2 decimal places, we will cover rounding, ordering and comparing decimals and finally converting decimals to fractions and percentages.

Times tables remains a big priority this term so please encourage frequent practise at home too by using Times Tables Rockstars – all children have their login details in their diary and there is a new battle to compete in every week!



RE

The first RE topic this term is all about mission. The children will explore inspirational leaders and look at what it really means to follow Jesus' mission. Secondly, they will cover a sacramental topic about memorial sacrifice. We will focus on memories and the importance of keeping memories alive. The children will then look more closely at the story of The Last Supper and then learn about the Eucharist, we receive at mass, as a memorial.

We will finish this term with our Lent topic. In this topic the children will look at giving and appreciating the cost of giving. We then look at Lent as an opportunity to grow spiritually and learn about the sacrifice of Jesus including the crucifixion and finishing with celebrating the Resurrection.



English

Our topic this term is based on Katherine Rundell's, 'The Explorer'. This is the theme we will follow in our English lessons. 'The Explorer' is a fantastic story based in the Amazon Rainforest which also links to our geography topic. So far the children have really enjoyed the story. We will be writing a range of descriptive pieces based on the book such as a non-chronological report about Brazil and a letter to the Brazilian president regarding palm oil production. As well as this we will be doing reading lessons, focusing on extracts from the book.



Science

Our science topic this term is 'animals including humans'. The children will be learning about gestation periods, child/ human development and life cycles, focusing on the changes that occur as we grow from babies to children and from children to adults.

After half term, we move onto the topic of 'living things and their habitats'. We will explore the life process of plants and mammals while focusing in particular on the life cycles of certain animals and processes that occur such as metamorphosis.

PE

The children have started their first PE topic of Hockey this half term. This topic is being taught by outside PE coach Jamie Pooler. The children will develop a range of skills and end the unit with a Class 9 vs Class 10 match!

After half term the children will begin a basketball/netball topic where they will cover passing and teamwork skills, they will then learn to apply these in game situations.



French

Our French topic this term is all about food. We will be learning the names for different food items, how to ask for food and also how to discuss healthy and unhealthy food in French. There will also be project work involving research into French school dinners that the children will eventually be presenting to the class.

After half term, we will move on to a new topic, 'in the city' which focuses on talking about where you live, where you want to go and also asking and giving directions.

Computing

The first computing topic this term is all about data. The children will learn the difference between data and information and look at the different programs that work with different types of data, e.g. text, number, video. After half term they will cover Programming and Algorithms.

Homework

All children are now expected to read their school reading book at home twice per week and to complete an activity on Reading Plus three times per week. Reading Plus delves more deeply into developing comprehensions skills and understanding rather than just fluency.

The routine for spellings and times tables remains the same. The children get new spellings and tables every fortnight on a Friday and that must be completed and returned by the following Wednesday, ready for testing on the Thursday. Just a reminder that for spelling homework the children now have to write the word, the matching rule and write a sentence where the word is used in context correctly.

Geography

Our topic for this term is Brazil. We will be learning about both human and physical geography within this topic. The children will be developing important geographical skills and using these skills to understand, describe and present data. We will be focusing on various aspects of Brazil such as habitats, climate and culture.

Art, Music and D&T

This term we will begin with an art topic where the children will look at the technique of Mola Art.

They will create their own Molas using the technique of layering. We will also look at the artist Romero Britto and his work which follows a pop art and cubism style. The children will merge both techniques and styles to create their own finished piece. After half term, we will begin a DT topic based on bee hives and structures. The children get to make and keep their very own mini bee hotel!

Year 5 are very lucky this term to be receiving ukulele lessons as part of their music curriculum. These lessons are being delivered by Tees Valley Music Service. Let's see who our class musicians are!

PSHE

This term, throughout the school, we have recently assigned two PSHE leaders from each class. With help from the PSHE leaders, there will be two activities a week in order to enhance learning across the key areas of PSHE to enhance personal, social and emotional development.

