



St Augustine's Catholic Primary Year 6 Newsletter: Autumn 2020



A warm welcome to Year 6 and the Autumn term. It has been wonderful to work with the children over these first two weeks; they are a super group of children. Although things are a little different in school at the moment with handwashing, changes to lunchtimes and bubbles, the children are so positive and enthusiastic. In these early days, we have been concentrating on establishing routines, building positive relationships and giving time to reflect on being back at school and together as a whole class. The children have also completed assessments for English and Maths, which will help to ensure the work set is appropriate for them. We have also enjoyed an art week in school with the children producing incredible self-portraits - I will share these on our class page on the school website in the next few days. Next week we will move towards our normal timetable with the subjects and skills we are teaching building over the half term as and when the children are ready.



RE

During the Autumn term, we will be exploring three themes: Loving, Vocation and Expectations. In our first topic Domestic Church (Loving), we will be exploring God's never-ending love. Our Baptism and Confirmation topic (Vocation) will allow us to think about the commitment needed by Priests to serve God. As we approach Advent, we will be celebrating Jesus' birth in our final topic - Expectations.



English

During these first few weeks, we have a whole school book theme **Here We Are**. This is a beautiful story which provides a powerful vehicle for children to reflect on and make sense of the world we are all living in. The words and pictures work together to help children to understand their place in the world and to move forward together in a positive and constructive way. Continuing with a focus on books and enriching stories, we will then be reading a book called A Necklace of Raindrops to inspire our imagination and descriptive writing.



The children need to bring their reading book and home reading log into school on their reading day.

It is important children are reading every day at home and that all children read aloud regularly to an adult. Even the most fluent readers benefit from the experience of sharing stories and information with others. Please can parents/carers sign to confirm reading.

Maths

In maths, we will continue to develop and strengthen our mental arithmetic and reasoning skills across all operations. We will focus this term on place value, negative numbers, formal written methods, fractions and shape. Children should also continue to practice their Times Tables regularly. The ability to recall multiples helps children across a range of mathematical concepts. In addition, overall confidence flourishes. To support this in school, we will practice arithmetic skills daily.



Science

In Science, with Mrs McKeown, the children will be investigating two wonderful topics. The first will be Circulation where the children learn how the heart works. The second is Light where the children will investigate how their eyes see objects and colour.

Topic

During the first half term, our writing will be based around our English focus and books. We will also begin to develop a number of key skills in both Geography and History as we move through the half term. After the October break, we will start our first class topic Mexican Fiesta, this is a vibrant theme, which offers a number of wonderful opportunities to help with our learning. In Geography, we will learn about the physical and social aspects of Mexico. In History, we will investigate The Aztecs and Mayans. In addition, we will be researching the Day of The Dead Celebration. This exciting topic will help inspire bright artwork, 3D designs and hopefully Mexican cooking! In both topics, we will learn about a number of influential people and life changing events.

Not forgetting... French starts in the next few weeks with telling the time and French schools. We also have Stepping Up on a Friday with Mr Foster - a super programme to develop citizenship.

PE

In PE, the children will be building skills in a range of team games. As the term develops, we will develop our dancing skills. This term PE will be on Thursday morning or Friday afternoons. Children need to leave their PE kit in school every day: PE kit should be a plain white T-shirt, black/blue shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers/plimsols (tracksuit tops are useful if the weather is cold).

Computing

This term, we will focus on internet safety and building communication skills across a range of programmes. We will also launch a class blog and a virtual school magazine so we can share work, ideas and school events with each other.

Homework

Homework will be **posted on the Google Classroom each Friday to be completed by the following Friday**.

It will include:

- Spellings to learn for a test in school the following Friday
- A set of maths questions
- A set of grammar and punctuation questions

Answers will be posted too for self/parent marking. Our homework will concentrate on building confidence and extending ability across key curriculum areas. Children may also be asked to complete tasks on ixl.com.

Meet the Team:



Mrs Nicholson



Mrs Montague



Mrs McKeown



Mrs Sawdon

Here to help!

Please contact us at school (by phone or email) if you have any questions or concerns.

Stay in touch - You will see how the children are doing as we send regular updates through the Marvellous Me App.

