



St Augustine's Catholic Primary Year 6 Newsletter: Autumn 2021



A warm welcome to Year 6 and the Autumn term. It has been wonderful to get to know the children over these first few weeks; they are a hardworking group. In these early days, we have been concentrating on establishing routines, building positive relationships and things getting back to some normality in terms of whole school assemblies and being able to work across year group bubbles. We have also enjoyed an art focused week in school with the children learning about tints, shades and tone producing self-portraits inspired by the work of Frida Kahlo. I will share these on our class page on the school website in the next few days. We are now moving towards our normal timetable with the subjects and skills we are teaching building over the half term.



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

In English, we have a cross curricular approach which means we are inspired by our topic themes and class novels. This term we will write letters, stories, reports, biographies and poetry. During the first half term we have a whole school topic **Global Caretakers**. This is an exciting theme which will help the children to understand their place in the world and how we can work together in a positive and constructive way to create a better world for all. Our novel **Welcome to Nowhere** is a realistic, moving story and an important read in opening children's eyes and helping them to understand the plight of refugees.



Reading is part of our culture: we read throughout the day in many different ways. The children need their reading book and home reading log in school every 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 Sawdon, the children will be investigating two wonderful topics. The first is Animals and Habitats where the children learn how animals adapt to survive. The second is Electivity.

Topic

During the first half term, our whole school topic is **Global Caretakers**. This theme will allow us to become campaigners learning about climate change and its impact on the environment and lives across the world. In school, each class has a country to study – in Year 6 we have Syria. We will learn about the physical and human geography of this fascinating place. After the October break, we will start our first-class topic **Infant Hercules**, this is an inspiring theme, which offers a number of wonderful opportunities to help with our learning about how Middlesbrough grew from a small farm to a thriving industrial town. In History, we will investigate the industrial revolution and how it impacted on the UK discovering the part Middlesbrough played in shaping the production of steel. 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 holding conversations and writing compound sentences.

We also have **Stepping Up** on a Friday with Mr Foster - a super programme to develop citizenship.

PE

In PE, the children will be learning fitness and skills in the fitness and gymnastics sessions. Next half term, we will develop our dancing and basketball skills.

PE will be on Thursday and most Friday afternoons. In case of timetable changes/extra sessions, children need a PE kit in school every day:

PE kit should be a plain white T-shirt, black/blue shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers/plimsoles (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. As the term develops, we will launch a class blog/podcast and a virtual school magazine so we can share work, ideas and school events.

Homework

Details of homework is always **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 (list on google classroom)
- A set of maths questions (CGP books)
- A set of grammar and punctuation questions (CGP books)

Answers are sent to parents 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 online.

It is important all children can access the Google classroom – we can send password reminders upon request.

Meet the Team: Here to help...



Mrs Nicholson



Mrs Sawdon



Mrs White

Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Stay in touch

You will see how the children are doing as we send updates through the Marvellous Me APP as well as posts on our school social media accounts.

So you don't miss anything, we send info/letters though Marvellous Me. Please let us know if you need help with this.



