

St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Terms 3 and 4

Maple Class

Mr Isaacs



"Created by God to love and learn"

Happy New Year

Hello and welcome back. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your generous and unexpected gifts at Christmas. It was much appreciated. We have another busy term ahead, including our class assembly on Friday 2nd February, and this letter will provide an overview of the learning your child will be taking part in up to the Easter Holidays.

Spellings

Children will be given spellings every week to learn at home and in school. Please support your child by helping them to learn their spellings and encourage them to use the words given to them as often as possible.

Pupils will be given spellings every Friday and tested on them the following Friday.

Over terms 3 and 4, weekly spellings will recap phase 5b and 5c alternate pronunciations from the previous terms as well as introduce common suffixes and their rules.

Homework

Homework will be given out every Friday and needs to be completed by the following Friday.

The homework will comprise of one piece of maths work (using the MyMaths online package), learning their spellings every day and regular (5 times per week) reading. Once pupils have read, they receive a stamp from school.

Homework is an important part of learning. Please help your child to become responsible for completing and handing in their work as independently as possible.

PE

All children are expected to join in PE as it helps to develop their fine and gross motor skills. PE days are on Tuesdays (indoors) and Wednesdays (outdoors) every week. Like last term, children are to come to school wearing their PE kits. Pupils are encouraged to wear the school's PE uniform consisting of a yellow T-shirt and grey PE hoodie along with black shorts or jogging bottoms if it is cold. Please make sure that all items are named. If they are not named, it makes it difficult for the younger children to keep track of.

If your child is physically unable to take an active part in PE, please write a letter or send an email to the office to inform us. If this is the case, your child will still be able to join in the session by watching the other pupils and offering feedback or making notes of the key teaching points.

Drink Bottles

Pupils are expected to bring in their own named drinks bottle to use throughout the day. These can then be 'topped up' using the jugs of water provided in class. The water bottles can then be stored in designated containers in the classroom which the children have access to during break times, lunch times and at certain times throughout the school day.

Art

This term, pupils will be developing their colour mixing skills, learning about the work of artist Romare Bearden and creating textured papers using paint. Pupils will compose collages inspired by their exploration of colour and texture in the world around them.

Physical Education

Childrens' indoor PE sessions will develop their dance skills through exploring movements and working in pairs and small groups to perform together in unison. The outdoor session, taught by a Sports Coach, will focus on teaching games.

Topic

During term 3, pupils will be learning about the United Kingdom and how it is made-up of four different counties. This will also include looking at famous landmarks in each capital city. In term 4, the children will be looking at the Great Fire of London including how it started, the main events that happened and what we can learn from it.

English

In term 3, children will be reading the book 'Rainbow Bear' by Michael Morpurgo and in term 4, 'Man on the Moon' by Simon Bertram. Each book will be used as a stimulus for their writing and will include both fiction and non-fiction writing outcomes. Children will be taught to use a variety of conjunctions, apostrophes for missing letters and how to recognise and use the present progressive verb form.

Reading

Children are given a reading book to take home and bring back to school every day. The expectation is that the children read every night (or as often as possible). As you listen to your child read, please record any comments in their reading record. All we ask is that you date and record the pages they have read and then sign it. Once they have finished reading it, please encourage your child to re-read the book to build up fluency with words they may have struggled with first time when reading. Children can then change their book, at an appropriate time, after they have read it four times.

Religious Education

In terms 3 and 4, the children will be taught units about Christmas, Revelation and Lent. Christmas looks at the annunciation and events from the Christmas story. Revelation looks at the various miracles performed by Jesus and in the unit about Lent, pupils will describe some of the main activities Christians take part in during Lent as well as retelling the major events of Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

Science

In terms 3 and 4, pupils will be learning about habitats. They will identify different habitats on the planet and which organisms live there including how they are best suited to their particular habitat. In term 4, pupils will learn about plants. This unit includes naming and identifying parts of a flower and describing their purpose as well as understanding how plants reproduce.

Mathematics

In terms 3 and 4, the children will focus on improving their understanding of statistics, fractions, measures and multiplication and division. Once taught, they will apply these concepts in word problems and other 'real-life' situations. Children will also be expected to learn their multiplication facts and be tested on them. To help the children learn their tables, they have access to the online website TT Rockstars (details to follow shortly). Children can then practice them at various points at home, and sometimes in school, throughout the week.

PSHE

In PSHE, children are following our PSHE 'Jigsaw' scheme of work. The first two units that the children will be learning about are called 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me'. These units focus on understanding who we are and that differences between people is good.