

St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

"Created by God to love and learn"



Terms 3 and 4

Birch Class – Miss Harvey

Welcome Back!

I hope you had a lovely Christmas break with your family and friends. The children have all settled well back into school. We have a busy, but exciting term ahead of us. Please can children be sent to school with a coat. With the drop in temperature, it is important they stay warm at break and lunch times.

Reading

All children have a reading book to take home and bring back to school every day. It is important that your child reads at home for at least ten minutes every day and a few times a week out loud to an adult. Reading with your children will help them with their fluency and expression as well as aiding their understanding of new vocabulary. It is also important to question and discuss the book with your child to support understanding. As you listen to your child read, please record any comments in their reading record as well as any comments that they have about the book. Once they have finished reading the book, please encourage your child to change it when they walk into school. If children read four times a week your child will receive a house point and their names will be put into the silver box for Fridays draw. We also have a class book, the children all vote on the one they would like to read. I read this to the class 3 times a week.

English

This term, we have a non-fiction focus. We will be reading a wonderful picture book called 'The man who walked between two towers'. The book is full of wonder and imagination and will allow the children's minds to explore. As the term develops, pupils will be taught how to use modal verbs, parenthesis and adverbials of time, whilst also recapping speech and expanding noun phrases from last term. As well as this, they will learning a range of spelling patterns e.g. silent letters, tricky suffixes and homophones. Guided reading sessions will continue to take place each week, to provide closer support in developing the children's comprehension skills with a particular focus this term on predicting what might happen next from implied information and discuss the meaning of new words in the context that they are written.

Mathematics

This term, the children will be finishing the fractions and decimals unit that we began before the Christmas break. This will however, be recapped throughout the term alongside the main focus of fractions. We will begin by introducing simple fractions from their previous learning. Then progressing on to mixed fractions and, adding and subtracting within fractions. Once the children have a secure knowledge of fractions we will move onto decimals.

Children will also be tested on their times tables. There is a chart in the classroom that I use to monitor and track which level they are on, so if the children are unsure they just need to ask. They will be awarded coloured badges that correspond with the level that they are on.

Art

This term, with Mrs Ravening we are going to be building on our sketching skills; perfecting our pencil grips and experimenting with different pencil pressure to see their effect. The children will create a self-portrait.

Science

In science, we are starting our topic of Forces and Magnets. The children will cover different types of forces, how these affect different objects due to their size and weight. Then moving onto air and water resistance, paying attention to streamline shapes and how this affects its speed.

Topic

During the next two terms, we will be studying the Victorians. This unit will be on the fascinating Queen Victoria - her life, family, portraits and homes. In addition, we will learn about major inventions of the period as well as other aspects of the daily lives of Victoria's subjects. Workhouses and child labour are studied through fiction texts. Census data, maps and buildings will provide us in developing an understanding of local history.

Spellings

Children will continue to receive 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. This could be when they are speaking or when they are writing and even when they are outside, using the words to describe, tell or explain what they see. Pupils will be given spellings every Friday and tested on them the following Friday. This will involve some focus words and words from their word list.

RE

In terms 3 and 4, we will be starting our Revelation unit. This is based around the parable of, John the Baptist. The children will dive into different parables that show how Catholic Christians live their lives. By the end of the unit the children will be able to describe how 'believers' live out the Kingdom parables and how they show the beliefs of the Kingdom, affect the moral values of believers.

PSHE

Within PSHE this term, we will be celebrating our differences. Looking at ourselves, finding and identifying what it is that makes us so unique and one of a kind.

PE

All children are expected to join in with PE as it helps to develop their fine and gross motor skills as well as improving their mental and physical health. In terms three and four PE days are every Thursday and every Tuesday. It is expected that children wear the correct kit for every lesson, which includes: PE top, PE hoodie, black shorts/joggers with trainers or daps. Tuesday lessons will be outside with Mr Croucher, focusing on Hockey skills. Thursday sessions are inside with Miss Harvey, with a focus on their physical skills, performing and repeating clear movements and shapes. This term we begin swimming lessons, children can wear PE kit on these days to allow for easier changing.

Latin

We will be focusing on verbs within our Latin lessons this term. This will include recapping their previous vocabulary from school years previously.