

St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Terms 1 and 2 Maple Class Mr Isaacs and Mrs Dyer

“Created by God to love and learn”



Welcome Back!

Welcome to start of a new school year at St Augustine's. I hope that everyone has had a relaxing and fun time over the summer. This is just a quick letter to explain some of the routines for this year and a brief overview of the learning your child will be experiencing.

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.

This could be when they are speaking or when they are writing.

Pupils will be given spellings every Friday and tested on them the following Friday. We will also, depending on ability, send home termly overviews as well.

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 (minimum of 4 times per week) reading.

Homework is an important part of learning. Please help your child to become responsible for completing 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 (outdoors) and Wednesdays (indoors) every week. Like last year, children are to come to school wearing their PE kits. Pupils are encouraged to wear their PE uniform consisting of a yellow T-shirt and grey PE hoodie along with black shorts or jogging bottoms in the colder months. Please make sure that these new 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 day.

Art

This term, pupils will be looking at the art work based around Max Ernst and his work on pattern, texture and tone. Pupils will be introduced to the term 'frottage' and learn how to make rubbings to create an art piece.

Physical Education

Pupils' indoor PE sessions will develop their core movement skills through a variety of different contexts that progressively get more complex as they gain confidence and become more skilful. The outdoor session will focus on games based activities.

Topic

In topic, the children will be learning about Hot Places whilst being introduced to the understanding of the Equator. The children will focus on comparing an African setting to the local Downend area and make comparisons in how the land has been used. They will also revisit the terms physical features and human features.

English

In term 1, pupils will be reading the book 'The Tin Forest' by Helen Ward and in term 2, 'Emily Brown and the Thing' by Cressida Cowell. Each book will be used as a stimulus for their writing and include both fiction and non-fiction writing. Children will be taught to write character and setting descriptions by using noun phrases and using more advanced punctuation such as commas for a list.

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 day. All we ask is that you date and record the pages they have read in their reading record. We recommend that pupils read each book three times rather than changing it immediately. This will promote fluency and provide more opportunity for developing their reading with expression.

Once they have finished reading their book, please encourage/ remind your child to change it. As children get older, they should become more independent and need to take more responsibility for themselves. As a result, it is their responsibility to change their book, at an appropriate time, when they have finished reading it.

Religious Education

In RE this term, we will be looking at Creation and the story of Amos. Children will have a chance to analyse the story and reflect on the actions from it before making links with events and how it influences their lives today. Afterwards, children will focus on the units of Prayers, Saints and Feasts, Advent and Christmas.

Science

In terms 1 and 2, we are following a unit of work called 'humans including animals'. This will focus on understanding that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults; describing the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air) and describing the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food and understanding about personal hygiene.

Mathematics

In the first two terms, pupils will focus on improving their understanding of place value in numbers up to one hundred, all four operations (+/-/x/÷), fractions and geometry. Once taught, the children will apply these concepts in word problems and other 'real-life' situations.

Pupils will also be expected to learn their multiplication facts and be tested on them. To help the pupils learn their tables, they will have access to the online website TT Rockstars (details sent out last week). Pupils 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 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Differences'. These units focus on understanding who we are and that differences between people is good.