

St Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

“Created by God to love and learn”



Terms 5 and 6

Birch Class – Mr Bairstow

Welcome Back!

I hope you had a lovely Easter break with your family and friends. The children have all settled well back into school. We have an exciting and busy term ahead of us.

Reading

Your child is provided with a reading book to take home and return to school daily. We emphasise the importance of your child reading at home for at least ten minutes each day, with a recommendation to read aloud to an adult at least 4 times per week. Engaging in reading together can significantly enhance your child's fluency and expression, while also helping them acquire new vocabulary. We encourage you to discuss the book with your child and ask questions to support and develop their comprehension. As you listen to your child read, please take a moment to record any observations or insights in their reading record, as well as any comments they may have about the book. Once your child has completed their reading, we kindly ask that you encourage them to select a new book upon arriving at school. Additionally, if your child reads four times a week, they will be rewarded with a House Point.

Thank you for your support in fostering a love of reading and for ALL the amazing donations of books which has helped flourish their LOVE OF READING!

English

This term, your child will be exploring the inspiring book *Hidden Figures*, which highlights the incredible contributions of African American women in the field of mathematics and science. As they delve into this powerful story, we will focus on enhancing their writing skills by incorporating a variety of elements. Throughout our lessons, we will practice using a range of verb forms and fronted adverbials to add depth to their writing. They will also learn to use expanded noun phrases, explore different sentence types, and experiment with various clause structures, including relative clauses. Additionally, they will discuss the use of parenthesis and work on creating cohesion within and between paragraphs while ensuring an appropriate level of formality in their writing. These skills will not only enrich their understanding of the text but also inspire them to express their thoughts and ideas more effectively.

Mathematics

This term, your child's maths learning will cover a range of exciting topics, fractions, decimals, percentages, area, statistics, geometry and measurement. To support their learning at home, it would be extremely helpful if you could ensure your child can accurately tell time on both analogue and digital clocks, as well as confidently divide and multiply by 10, 100 and 1000. Rapid recall of multiplication facts is also crucial for success in many of these areas. Please encourage your child to practice these skills regularly using the online platform TTRS.

DT – Mechanical systems

This term, your child will explore mechanical systems. This will include pneumatic devices, considering necessary component shapes and creating accurate drawings. They will also develop and evaluate their designs.

Science

In science, we are starting our topic of Living things and their habitats. This unit builds on work from previous years and deepens the children's understanding of reproduction and animal characteristics. We will concentrate on life cycles and introduce topics such as asexual reproduction.

Topic

In this term's humanities unit, we will continue learning about climate zones, biomes and rainforests. We will then start to discover the fascinating world of the ancient Maya civilization. Your child will investigate the geographical spread and timeline of the Maya, exploring their complex social structures, agricultural practices, and impressive feats of engineering, including their magnificent city-states and monumental architecture- lasting contributions to the world.

RE

The overall theme for RE this term is 'End of the Earth' and 'Dialogue and Encounter'. It considers people from scripture whose lives were transformed by faith which will also be used as a backdrop to how we develop our understanding and knowledge of the Catholic Church and support our weekly class reflections.

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 five and six, PE days are Tuesday and Thursday. It is expected that children wear the correct kit for every lesson, which includes: yellow PE T-shirts, black shorts and trainers or daps. If they need a jumper then this too must be a PE school hoodie.

Latin

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

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 the following Friday. This will involve some focus words and words from their word list.