

St. Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Class Six - Autumn Term 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to Year 6! This is the most exciting year of primary school with many, many special events and experiences to look forward to – JCA trip, SATs, choosing a secondary school, end of year production and many more. Already the children are experiencing the added responsibilities and privileges of being at the top of the school with their involvement in our citizenship programme, team captain elections and duties and beginning to become more independent by walking to and from school alone. With the support of the staff in Year 6 we will help guide your child through the next few months ensuring that they are ready academically and socially and emotionally to become a young adult ready to tackle life and learning in secondary school.

English

Each term, we focus on examples of poetry, fiction and non-fiction texts. This term we will be exploring and writing free form poetry to enhance vocabulary and performance poetry. In non-fiction we will be studying explanation, reports and recounts and looking at how short stories are constructed in different genres.

Reading – The children will read, compare, analyse and discuss many examples of the focus text type each week. Guided reading sessions take place daily with a carousel of activities take place including focussed time with the teacher on a set text and individual reading with the teaching assistant. During these sessions, children will be focussing on giving very precise answers to questions and using the text for evidence to support answers to opinion and inference questions.

Spelling – Spelling patterns and rules are introduced and explored every week. We link spelling and handwriting to help our hands and eyes remember how words feel and look. It is therefore very important that children are using joined handwriting at all times.

Remembering how to write these words accurately is an important skill and really helps to build children's confidence in independent writing.

Writing – After reading, analysing and discussing texts, the children will have opportunities to write their own versions. In all forms of writing they will be encouraged to follow structures and features of the text type. Every lesson includes the grammar or punctuation rules associated with the genre of text and children are expected to use the rules they have learned in their writing.

Mathematics

During this term, we will be using our times tables knowledge to calculate and solve problems. We will also continue to use more formal written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Reading, interpreting and making bar charts, pictograms, Venn and Carroll diagrams will be the focus of our data handling lessons.

Computing

This term the children will work with spreadsheets: developing their understanding of spreadsheets and using models to solve problems. They will be also be learning about the importance of e-safety when using computers and similar devices both at home and at school.

Science

Children will be investigating the topic of 'Evolution and Inheritance'; 'Micro-organisms' and 'The circulatory system'. There are many opportunities for practical investigations and observations as well as recording in mind maps, tables and charts.

Religious Education

The Way the Truth and The Life series. This term we will be focusing on The Kingdom of God and Justice, as well as a class discussion on Catholic Social teaching.

Topic Work

Our topic for the term is the Mayans. The children will be learning about the Mayan way of life, their homes, work, traditions and customs. Topic lessons will include history, geography, art and design and technology.

P.E.

All P.E kits are to be brought into school on a Monday and left in school for the week. PE will take place on a Wednesday and Friday. Our focus will be on netball and gymnastics for the first half term then hockey and gymnastics. We will also be doing the Daily Mile. Children will need to wear trainers outdoors rather than plimsolls.

French

The children will be focusing on vocabulary about the parts of the body and connected with sports activities. They will also learn how to understand, use and answer questions about sports activities.

Home Learning

Homework is sent home on a Wednesday and is to be returned on a Monday. Please do not return homework early as there are daily tasks to complete in spelling before our activities on Monday mornings. Please practise times tables facts at home (including division facts eg: $56 \div 7 = 8$).

Reminders

Children should not arrive at School before 8.50am unless they are taking part in the Citizenship duties in which case they should arrive at 8.30am and sign in at the office.

All their belongings, including the stationery they wish to bring in, are the children's responsibility, and should be **clearly named**.

If you have any queries or concerns about any aspects of the curriculum or your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs K Kahlon Class Teacher

Ms T McBride Head teacher