

# St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School

## Year 1 Curriculum Newsletter



### Literacy

In our literacy lessons we will start to develop our writing through constructing simple sentences. We will read lots of different books, focusing this term upon stories with familiar settings, instructions, recounts and stories with repeated or patterned language. Reading a wide range of books with your child, helping them to follow simple instructions, writing a diary or talking about what you have done on a weekend will be a big help. We have also been reading and writing some poems about a variety of subjects.

### Numeracy

We will cover a wide range of maths in our numeracy lessons. We shall focus on numbers and the number system, becoming confident in counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s. We'll start to complete simple addition and subtraction problems, describe the property of shapes, recognise coins and find totals. Finding opportunities to incorporate maths in your child's everyday life is surprisingly easy. How many red cars did they see on the way to school? What shapes are the road signs? How many steps are there in your house? How many would there be if you added 10 more steps? How many knives and forks do you need to lay the table for your family? All these simple problems will help

build your child's mathematical confidence.

### R.E.

R.E. is a very important part of our curriculum. We develop our knowledge and understanding through the study of our school mission statement and how it applies to us. The story of Creation, St. John's Gospel, Prayers and Feasts we celebrate in the Catholic Church and Christmas. We encourage the children to pray independently and compose their own prayers and hope they continue to do this at home.

### Space

The Space theme has been continued from the work the children did in Reception. We have looked at the planets in relation to each other and we will be going on to look at life as an astronaut in more detail.

### My Memory Box

In this history focused unit we will be looking at the make up and experiences of our families. We will look at how our childhoods compare to our parents' and grandparents'. We shall use photographs and objects to help understand the passage of time and place objects in chronological order. Talking to your child about how they have grown, developed and changed since birth and encouraging them to find out about their parents and grandparents childhood would aid your child's learning. It would also be useful if you could start gathering photographs for your child to look at and bring in when the topic starts.

### Science – Ourselves

By comparing ourselves to other animals we shall develop an understanding of what makes humans different from other animals. We shall also acquire an understanding of the importance of a healthy lifestyle in maintaining good health. Encouraging your child to help prepare meals and discussing

how their body feels after exercise would be a great aid to your child's understanding.

### **P.E.**

We have 2 P.E. lessons a week on a Monday and a Wednesday. In Games we shall be practising throwing and catching, focusing on our skill at aiming at a target, and catching different sized objects. In Gymnastics we will be perfecting balances on our large and small body parts both on the floor and on gym equipment, individually and in pairs.

It is important to remember that earrings are not to be worn for PE. If your child is not able to remove their own earrings and put them back in, they should either not wear them to school on PE days or bring their own microfibre tape to cover them. This includes Thursday when the children have sport as part of their Curriculum Afternoon.

### **Be Safe, Be Seen**

During the second half of the term we shall focus upon Road Safety and keeping safe. We will learn how to cross the road safely and identify potential hazards as we walk. We shall cover the importance of being seen and with the help of our parents design a safety jacket to help us 'Be Safe, Be Seen'.

### **Performing Arts**

In the lead up to Christmas we shall be utilising our acting, singing and dancing skills as we put together our Christmas production. We shall no doubt be extremely excited to show you the results of our hard work at the Cathedral!

### **Homework**

Your child should be heard read at home every night, and this noted in their reading diary. They can then have a sticker added to their reading chart. The more stickers they get, the more prizes they will win!

Weekly spellings are sent home on a Monday and will be tested on a Friday.

After half term I shall start setting another piece of homework which will be given on a Friday and should be returned to school on Monday.

### **Class Liturgy**

Our class Liturgy is on Wednesday 16th November, we do hope you will be able to join us at 9.15 at the Cathedral.

If you wish to speak to me about anything, then I am available after school on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

I am really pleased with how the children have settled into Year 1 so far and I am looking forward to the year to come with them.

**Miss A Poppleton**