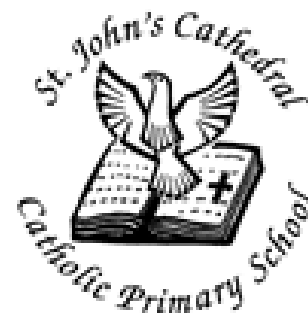


**ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WITH NURSERY)**
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15th September 2009

Dear Parents,

Year 6 Autumn Term Curriculum Newsletter

I hope you find the following information of use in knowing what your child will be covering this term and helping to support them.

The main difference your child will encounter this year is that this is their SATs year. With that will come a greater focus on literacy, numeracy and science and children will be expected to take greater responsibility for the learning. As the tests draw nearer children and parents will have to take responsibility for a revision programme.

In **literacy** and **numeracy** similar areas of learning are covered each term but naturally with greater depth and at a more difficult level.

In **literacy** we will be looking at poetry, narrative writing, biographies, report writing, journalistic writing and scripts for plays and films.

In **numeracy** we will be focusing on place value, multiplication and division strategies, fractions and decimals, handling data, using a calculator, reasoning about shapes and measure, position, movement and scale and addition and subtraction strategies.

In Science they will be developing key enquiry skills

- Deciding on a method of enquiry
- Using a range of sources to select information
- Identifying key variables to be controlled
- Selecting suitable equipment
- Using tables systematically
- Making predictions and drawing conclusions
- Recording findings

while finding out about the human body, materials and their properties, animals, habitats and food chains.



ICT is used to support many subject areas. We will particularly be concentrating on retrieving information from a range of sources and presenting it in a multimedia form.

In P.E. we will be having two lessons a week. One will be games developing attack and defence skills through basketball. The second will be gymnastics. In gymnastics we will be focusing on improving balance, developing own gymnastic sequences and mirroring and matching sequences. P.E. is held on a Monday and Thursday. Correct P.E. Kit **must** be worn.

In History we will be finding out about the Ancient Greeks and in particular the skill of using source materials.

In Geography we will be learning about the physical features of rivers, water cycles and rivers around the world.

In Art we will be concentrating on developing our drawing and painting skills by drawing and painting people in action.

In D&T we will be designing and making a model of shelters looking in particular at how well we can use a range of materials to build structures.

R.E. is a very important part of our curriculum. We develop further our knowledge and understanding.

This is achieved through our study of:

The Mission Statement

Prayer and Feasts

Creation

St. John's Gospel

Advent/Christmas

I hope you will be able to attend our Mass in the Cathedral on Thursday 12th November at 9.30 a.m. I would also encourage all parents to attend the Year 6 Family Learning Workshop on Friday 16th October at 9.00 .am. This is an opportunity for parents to see first hand the kind of teaching methods used in Year 6 and to join your children in their learning for one morning.

Homework is a very important part of helping your child to achieve their potential. Homework is not optional. We hope you will support your child in ensuring that it is completed and returned to school on time.

Reading is a vitally important element of homework. Children in Year 6 should try to read at home every day and parents have a responsibility to listen to their child read aloud on at least 3 evenings a week. Reading is one of the foundation stones of literacy development.

Homework Timetable

Monday

Literacy/Numeracy Homework set
Spelling
Reading

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| Tuesday | Spelling Reading | |
| Wednesday | Spelling Reading | Reading Diaries checked |
| Thursday | Spelling Reading | |
| Friday | Spelling Test Reading | Homework in Reading Diaries checked |

As you will appreciate, Year 6 is a very important year for your child. I can assure you that I will be doing my very best to ensure that every child achieves their full potential and I trust that you and your child will play your part in keeping absences to a minimum and ensuring that homework (including reading and tables) is carried out to a consistently high standard.

Yours sincerely,

L. Leach
Year 6 Teacher

