



St Mary's Catholic First School
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Head Teacher: Mrs Paula Fearn

15th September 2017



Dear Parents



Welcome back and welcome to Year 4. This year is a very important year for your children as they prepare themselves for Middle School next year. The expectation of the children with regard to independence, organisation and attitude will be very high this year to give them the mental strength and confidence to take on the challenges of Year 5.



It was a pleasure to have taught your children for most of last year and I was very happy with the progress they made. This year, we are all hitting the ground running at full speed. We have already begun our topic on India and in Literacy we are well into the Jamila Gavin story 'Grandpa Chatterji'. We have started looking at character descriptions and are honing our knowledge of the possessive apostrophe.



In Maths we are looking at numbers this half term. This includes place value, rounding numbers, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Once a week the children will have a problem solving lesson where they have to investigate, explain and give reasons for their choice of mathematical thinking.

Homework, spellings and Times tables will be given out on Friday 15th September. All homework is to be handed in each Thursday. Spellings and tables ***must be practised daily***; weekly tests/dictations will happen every Friday. Please help your child get into the routine of daily revision and help them prepare for the weekly tests and dictations. We will also have mental Maths tests frequently across the term.

There will be an expectation that children will read with an adult and sign their reading diaries at least five times a week. Through Guided Reading sessions every day, I listen to every child read over the course of a week. Please do get in touch with me if you have worries regarding your child's reading or need any ideas to help them read at home.

Our PE days are Tuesdays and Fridays.

Your children are full of possibility and potential. They have their own key to open up their personal achievement and learning. I am privileged at present, to be their door keeper and will continue to do my best for them in their learning.

Yours sincerely

Mr Kay
Year 4 Class Teacher

Science

TEETH, Solids and Liquids

Teeth maps; labelling teeth. Designing experiments to test teeth and their strength. Graphs to compare teeth, investigating different teeth and their functions on a tooth line. What is a solid and a liquid? Can we change their states? Investigating solubility, investigating how we can separate solids and liquids from each other.

Mathematics

Number and place value
Fractions and decimals
Measures
Shape
Logic and reasoning skills
Weekly multiplication and mental maths tests

English

The children will be reading a range of texts based around their India topic, Stories with historical setting, poetry, newspaper reports. We will be composing a non-chronological report on monkeys and writing a story from India. Letters and diary entries as characters from Rama and Sita. Persuasive unit on travelling to India for a holiday. The children will also be focusing in on sentence

PE

Our specialist Sports Coach Mr Kent will lead the children through various games and multi-skills activities.

RE

The children will deepen their understanding of Creation, Prayers, Saints and Feasts, Sacraments and Advent. This will be explored through varying mediums such as stories, drama and discussion.



ICT

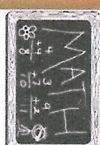
Research skills. Investigating Google maps. Design skills using word and publisher.



Geography & History

INDIA

Labelling physical maps of India. Comparing tables on climate in India Differentiating between human and physical geographic features comparing rural and urban India, using field work to investigate local area. Use of coordinates in map work. Looking at volcanoes, following the journey of tea as an Indian export. Investigating tourism as an industry in India Journey, Frequency maps. Looking at the history of trading links with India. Using historical sources to deduct clues on how the East India company impacted on Indian and British lives. Investigating the movement for Indian independence led by Gandhi. looking at the royal Indian shampoo servant to King George 1 Vth, Brighton pavilion as a fashionable Indian residence.



DT

Mendhi 3d hands, Simple batik, peacocks, observation drawings of peacock feathers Making Dahl, Investigating levers and linkages -designing a moving Ravanna The Taj Mahal at sunset, clay diva lamps, textured collage and poem on the blind men and the elephant

Music

The children will be listening to and appraising Indian and Asian music as well as composing simple pieces using notation and Indian vocabulary

