

Dempsey Class Summer Curriculum Letter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a superb Easter break. I would like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying, as well as the day to day routines and procedures during the summer term.

As you are aware, for the first half of this term we will be focusing on SATs revision. All homework and study tasks need to be completed on time in order to support the learning in class. Please read through the following information and share it with your child to ensure the next few weeks are positive and productive.

Revision Tips – using the Study Guides

As a result of our focus upon SATs revision this half term your child will have short pieces of homework to complete throughout the school week in their SATs revision books as well as homework for the weekends. We ask for your support in ensuring that this homework is completed on time, and to the best of your child's ability. You can support your child by checking the quality of their work, encouraging them to stay focused while completing the task and encouraging them to take breaks where appropriate in order to stay relaxed.

Relaxation

Please encourage your child to use the massage and breathing techniques learned in school and please make sure they get plenty of sleep and that they are not staying up too late before bed. This has a massive impact on the children's ability to focus and concentrate in class. This is particularly important during the week of SATs. It is also very important that your child brings their water bottle into school every day.

Literacy and Maths

As I am sure you are aware, your child takes part in Literacy and Maths lessons every day. To assist your child in their development in both these curriculum areas, please give them support and encouragement in reading and practising their times tables and division facts **every day**. Regular mental calculation practice e.g. adding up items whilst shopping; time – duration as well as telling the time and answering sums are all important in supporting your child's confidence with mental calculation. In addition to this, your child has a maths target card with individual targets designed to help extend and improve their mathematical skills and confidence. Please support your child by working through their targets on a regular basis.

To help improve your child's reading and comprehension skills, please ensure you listen to them reading aloud and question them on the text that they are reading **daily**.

Science

Through studying the unit 'Light' your child will learn: that light appears to travel in straight lines; to use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye; to explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes and to use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

In the 'Living Things and their Habitats' unit your child will learn about and describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals. Your child will also have the opportunity to explore and investigate living things and to develop their scientific enquiry skills through practical investigation.

RE

This term your child will be studying:

Transformation – In this topic your child will learn about Pentecost exploring how the spirit of God is active in each person and in a special way in the community of believers that is the Church. They will learn that the Feast of Pentecost is the celebration both of the gift of God's Holy Spirit and the trust God places in people to be witnesses in the world.

Freedom & Responsibility – Your child will understand that freedom involves responsibility and they will reflect on God's rules for living freely and responsibly (The Ten Commandments). They will also learn the importance of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in mending our relationships with God and others.

Stewardship - The topic explores how the common good is central to Catholic Social teaching and is intrinsically linked to social justice. At the heart of this teaching is respect for the human person made in the image of God; the social well-being and development of all; peace between all people; understanding of the equality of all and respect for difference; human solidarity and an awareness of being part of God's global family in everything we do.

History & Geography

This summer term your child will learn about the Vikings, focusing on their way of life; their travels and contact with the wider world. They will also learn about the Vikings in England, from the early attacks on monasteries, to the settlement and farming communities established and the long term effect this had on England. They will be encouraged to discuss and evaluate different sources and evidence from history, looking at what they can teach us of the Vikings. They will also develop their chronological understanding of how Viking society developed over time, and how Anglo-Saxons and Vikings influenced each other and England. Throughout the summer term, the children will be taking notes on classroom discussions, engaging in independent historical research and reading historical texts.

DT/Art

In Design Technology your child will be creating giant structures, learning about strength, rigidity, balance and stability in the context of creating an Anglo Saxon artefact. This unit will be delivered through a workshop in which a specialist in large scale sculptures and living willow models will work with the children over the course of two days to create sculptures based upon our History unit of Anglo Saxons. Your child will develop skills and understanding to help them create these sculptures; these skills include measuring, marking, cutting and folding accurately.

In our Art topic, Monet and the Impressionists, your child will be introduced to one of the most famous artists of all time. Throughout the topic they will discover what Impressionism is, and where and why it began, before exploring the works of some of the great Impressionists. Your child will then explore Monet's life and works in more detail and have a go at some Impressionist art of their own! Watch this space for some inspirational impressionism art work!

Computing

This term your child will continue to learn about e-safety including: the importance of staying safe online; how to stay safe online; the importance of privacy settings and protecting their personal information; their digital footprint and appropriate uses of social media. Furthermore your child will be learning to use word and publisher to work towards creating a memories collage of their final year at St Joseph's, developing their skills at creating columns, tables, graphs and text boxes. They will also learn how to import pictures from a camera, add captions and edit their images for effect.

MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)

This term your child will continue to learn French following the Catherine Cheater French Schemes of Work. They will continue to identify and practise individual sounds in a word, progressing to blending sounds to create whole words. They will learn masculine and feminine nouns such as pencil case items.

Your child will also take part in multi-cultural and language awareness activities. In order to give pupils the opportunity to experience lots of French language and culture, events such as the Bastille Day and Le Tour de France will be explored and celebrated across the school.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education)

This term in PSHE your child will be learning about the need to cross roads safely and how to do this with increasing awareness. They will also be learning about what it means to be emotionally healthy; how to effectively communicate feelings and emotions; to be aware of different emotional situations and how to manage themselves appropriately during these situations.

During the summer term your child will also prepare for our exciting school journey trip to the Isle of Wight on Monday **19th June**. There will be a meeting for parents with more detailed information on **Thursday 8th June** in the upper school hall.

It's important to us that our Year 6 children feel confident about their move to secondary school. We provide a wide range of transition activities to enable your child to feel prepared and excited about this next chapter of their education. These transition activities include our trip to Aylesford on Wednesday 24th May, our leavers' assembly on **Tuesday 11th July at 9:10am** and our leavers' Mass on **Wednesday 19th July at 5pm**. We endeavour to meet the children's spiritual, emotional and physical needs in these sessions as well as having lots of fun! *Remember to record the dates.*

PE

Your child has P.E. every **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**. Please ensure they have their full **Indoor** and **Outdoor PE kits** for all lessons. As it is the summer term your child will be focusing on Outdoor games including preparation for our Annual Sports Day!

In outdoor PE your child will develop their striking skills in tennis. They will learn and develop sport skills such as serving, volleying and footwork while also considering the tactics used in both attack and defence in order to outwit the opposition. Furthermore they will of course be developing and adapting their skills for the various techniques and disciplines in Athletics ready for Sports Day. Your child will develop their speed, accuracy and throwing skills for height or distance based on the discipline being improved. They will learn how to listen to and give coaching points and help to improve others around them and why this is important in all sports.

In addition, your child will have the opportunity to partake in extra PE sessions, every other half term, with our sports coach David Dines on **Friday**. The other half term they will continue to participate in music sessions with Mr Dixon.

Finally, it would be greatly appreciated if you could ensure that your child brings their school water bottle into school every day, with their name clearly marked on it. If your child does not have a school water bottle, they are available from the school office for £1.50. Please ensure any money that is sent into school is enclosed in a school money pocket and detailed with the necessary information. Money pockets can be purchased from the school reception also.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me after school.

Mr Hoyes
Dempsey Class Teacher