

McAuley Class Curriculum Letter



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a wonderful Easter break! We would like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying this half-term, as well as review the day-to-day routines and procedures in place to support their learning.

English and Maths

In English, we will be reading and writing our own explanations linked to real life and fictional contexts. We will be learning about the features of explanation texts and comparing those to other styles of writing.

In maths, we will be building on our learning about fractions by focusing on decimals, particularly in the context of money. With this in mind, if there is an opportunity to allow your child to have some experience of purchasing items in a shop or calculating change, this would be of great benefit to their learning. In the later part of the half term, we will be focusing on other areas of measure such as time, capacity, weight and length.

Please continue to assist your child's development in both of these curriculum areas by ensuring they are learning their spellings, reading and practising their times tables **every day**. Additionally, your child received new maths targets before the holidays. Please support your child by working through their targets on a regular basis so they can progress in their learning and receive new targets before the end of half-term.

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. Your child should make an entry in their reading journal on a weekly basis and we also encourage you to make comments about your child's reading to support us in monitoring their progress.

Finally please support your child with any homework that they receive to consolidate their learning in class by monitoring their progress in completing their work, and ensuring that it is returned to school at the correct time. Below is a copy of our homework timetable as a reminder of when your child's homework needs to be returned to school.

Homework Timetable

- Monday: All homework is returned
- Tuesday: Children receive new spellings and Reading Journals are returned to school
- Wednesday: Spelling Sentences Books are sent home
- Thursday: Weekend homework is sent home

Science

This half-term your child will be learning about Plants.

In this topic, your child will learn to identify and name a variety of common plants, including garden plants, wild plants and trees. They will explore the functions of the different parts of a plant, for example the roots, and investigate the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil). Through practical experiments, your child will develop their enquiry skills; they will learn how to make systematic and careful observations and draw conclusions from their findings.

RE

This half-term your child will be learning about Pentecost; how the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit and spread the good news of the Easter message to others. They will also think about how they can welcome the Holy Spirit into their lives.

Later in the half-term, your child will learn about building bridges of friendship: how we say sorry when we have upset our friends and how we must say sorry to God, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, when we have sinned.

History

This half-term your child will be learning about the Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Scots. During this topic, they will be discovering who was buried at Sutton Hoo, finding out where the Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Scots came from and using historical evidence to uncover what life was like in this era.

Art/ DT

In art this half-term, your child will be developing a range of skills through the topic: Famous Buildings. They will study impressive buildings from around the world and use them as inspiration for creating their own skyscraper artwork via a range of media. Your child will continue to improve their mastery of drawing using both pencil and paint, and have the opportunity to build on their experience of working with clay by designing and creating their own sculptures.

French

This half-term your child will continue to learn French. Their topic this half term will be 'Le Carnaval des Animaux' (The Carnival of Animals). They will broaden their vocabulary by learning new words for different animals and develop accurate pronunciation and intonation when using familiar words and phrases.

Computing

During this unit, your child will gain an understanding of how computers work within a network. They will learn about the physical hardware connections necessary for computer networks to operate, identify some features of internet protocols and develop a basic understanding of how domain names are converted to IP addresses.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education)

This half-term your child will be developing their emotional awareness. They will learn how to identify a range of feelings such as anger and jealousy, and become more aware of some situations where these feelings may become more intense. Your child will be taught some strategies to help them communicate these feelings and manage them in a safe and healthy way.

PE

Your child has outdoor P.E every **Monday**. Please ensure they have their **full Indoor and Outdoor PE kits** for all lessons.

In Outdoor PE your child will take part in a range of athletic activities in preparation for our Sports Day. They will be exploring running, jumping and throwing activities, and take part in simple challenges and competitions. They will experiment with different ways of travelling, throwing and jumping, increasing their awareness of speed and distance. As in all athletic activities, your child will learn about how to achieve the greatest possible speed, height, distance and accuracy before deciding which events they would like to compete in on the day.

Your child will also be partaking in swimming lessons every Monday for the duration of this term. Please ensure that your child has all the equipment they require for this lesson (as detailed in a previous letter) to enable them to make the most of this opportunity.

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**. In the other half-term they will participate in music sessions with our specialist music teacher Mr Dixon.

Reminders: Could you please ensure that your child brings their school water bottle into school everyday, with their name clearly marked on it. This is increasingly important as the weather (hopefully!) begins to get warmer. 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.

If you have any queries or concerns about any of the items in this letter, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see us before or after school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Crowther

McAuley Class Teachers