



# Teresa Class Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of another exciting school year! I would like to introduce myself as your child's class teacher, Miss Wright. I am privileged to have the support of Mrs Mchaki this year in Teresa Class. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying over the next half term, as well as of their day-to-day routines and procedures.

## **English and Maths**

As I am sure you are aware, your child takes part in English and Maths lessons every day. To assist your child in their development in both of these curriculum areas, please support and encourage them to read aloud at home every night and to practice their times tables facts every day, as well as rehearsing mental maths strategies regularly. This half term your child will receive a maths target card along with a leaflet containing ideas for exercises, which can be completed to help them progress in their targeted areas of learning. Additionally, they will receive a Mathletics login in order to practise target areas of their mathematics at home.

## **Science**

This half term your child will be studying the topic 'Forces'. In this unit your child will learn how forces such as gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction affect the movement of objects. Additionally, they will explore the work of key scientists Isaac Newton and Galileo Galilei to discover how their work helped develop the theory of gravity. They will also investigate how some mechanisms, including pulleys, levers and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.

Alongside their study of this topic, your child will be given numerous opportunities to develop their skills of working scientifically. In this topic they will be able to take measurements using a range of scientific equipment and record this data using tables. Furthermore, they will begin to use scientific evidence to support or refute their ideas and arguments.

## **RE**

In the topic 'Ourselves' your child will be taking the time to develop a deeper awareness of who they are and the God-given qualities they have, and how these differ from person to person. They will learn that it is important to appreciate and celebrate these differences in others. In addition, your child will reflect upon God's role as a supporting figure in their life, who teaches them to use their wonderful gifts and qualities in the service of others, and begin to understand that this will sometimes require courage.

Furthermore this half term, your child will learn about the history of a key Jewish festival: Passover. They will learn how Passover is celebrated, the importance of Moses in the Jewish faith and begin to understand how Jewish people have developed practices to remind themselves of their commitments and beliefs. Throughout this topic, they will explore parallels between Christianity

and Judaism, identifying and learning about shared values between the two faiths.

### **History/Geography**

This half term, your child will be learning about Ancient Mayan civilization. In this topic, your child will obtain a geographical understanding of Ancient Maya, alongside an awareness of its chronological historical context. They will also learn of the various significant achievements of the Maya, explore their belief systems and culture, whilst also learning the relevant skills to compare and contrast Mayan society with the modern day.

Your child will also have the opportunity to evaluate primary and secondary sources to understand more about Mayan civilization, and gain necessary skills in reasoning to justify their own historical opinion. Finally, your child will consider what the Ancient Mayan's most significant achievement might have been and present an advertisement to showcase this. Whilst participating in this activity, your child will develop key skills in speaking and listening.

### **DT**

In this DT unit, your child will explore the functions and aesthetics of hand warmers. They will design and make a hand warmer based on their analysis of other examples. Your child will also develop their knowledge and skills in a variety of sewing techniques for joining and decorating fabric.

### **Computing**

This half term your child will be developing their knowledge and skills in programming and digital citizenship. They will learn about core programming concepts including behaviours and sprites, and will create an interactive project that can be shared with their classmates. For digital citizenship they will explore the difference between private and personal information, why there are risks in sharing private information online and how to choose what information about themselves is safe to share. Furthermore, your child will learn about the challenges and benefits of ownership and copyright.

### **PSHE**

During the autumn term, your child will explore the responsibilities of living in the wider world through the topic of 'Role Models'. Your child will also have the opportunity to reflect on our school's Mission Statement and explore how they can continue to be good examples of pupils at St Joseph's. They will learn the importance of taking responsibility and understand how they can become role models in their school, local and online community.

Additionally, your child will continue to learn about the wider world, including about British Values and why these values are important in our society. They will also learn about fundamental human rights, exploring how these are not always upheld in parts of the world.

### **Music**

This half term, your child will have the opportunity to take part in weekly music sessions with the school's specialist music teacher Mr Dixon, in which they will be

exploring 'The Top 10!' (in which they will be exploring Jazz through the topic 'What a Wonderful World'.

### **MFL**

In French this term, your child will be learning to use new vocabulary associated with the world of healthy eating, though the topic 'Bon appétite, bonne santé'. Your children will continue to develop their ability to listen to spoken language and join in and respond where appropriate. Through this new vocabulary, and with their existing understanding of the French language, your child will learn how to form accurate sentences. As they become more confident in the new vocabulary and grammar, your child will be able to hold conversations relating to this topic.

### **PE**

This half term your child will be taking part in outdoor P.E. every Monday in which they will be taught netball. Throughout the topic, your child will learn various skills including pivoting, interception, a range of passes and shooting. Your child will also be taught tactical elements of the sport such as positioning, key rules and how to devise a game strategy. They will have the opportunity to showcase their skills by participating in a full netball match at the end of this half-term.

In addition, your child will also have indoor PE every Wednesday. Over the course of this half term your child will be working towards choreographing a dance routine in the style of traditional Ancient Mayan dance. They will be using a range of stimuli to inspire their dance including videos, photos, props and musical instruments. They will also be evaluating and comparing their dance to previous performances in order to make improvements to achieve their personal best.

### **Routines**

Your child will receive homework this half term – more information to follow in a further letter.

Currently a piece of fruit is provided for all children at morning break time by the Government's 'free fruit for schools scheme'. Children are still permitted to bring a piece of fruit from home each day if desired.

It is important that your child brings their school water bottle, full, to school each day. If your child does not have a school water bottle, they are available from the school office for £1.50. Please ensure any money 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. Please remember to check your child's school bag for any letters which may require parental permission.

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

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Wright  
Teresa Class Teacher