



## McAuley Class Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like this opportunity to introduce myself as your child's new class teacher, Mrs Bowe. It is a pleasure to be working with you as we move forward in to the second part of the year, and I look forward to getting to know you! I would also like to inform you of the curriculum content your child will be studying during the first half of the spring term, as well as a reminder of the day to day routines and procedures.

### **English and Maths**

Your child will continue to explore and learn about a variety of different subject areas in their daily English and Maths lessons. 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, as well as rehearsing mental maths strategies and times tables facts. Your child has been given access to Mathletics which they can use to complete assigned activities as well as using Mathletics Live to practise rapid recall of number facts. We recommend that your child uses Mathletics as a revision tool to revise the learning that has taken place in class. Their Mathletics log-ins can be found in their Homework Diary and their Maths Homework Book.

### **RE**

Your child's first topic this half term is "Giving and Receiving", in which they will be exploring the Eucharist and how we receive Jesus in Word and Sacrament, before then giving of ourselves when we take the message and mission of Jesus' Gospel to the world with the Concluding Rite. In keeping with our school wide focus on community, your child will also discover how these elements of the Sacraments bring us closer to God, each other and those around us.

In the topic of "Self-Discipline", your child will learn that Lent is the part of the Liturgical Year when people unite themselves with Christ in order to grow in self-discipline through the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Your child will celebrate the growth of new life in Christ, in preparation for the feast of Easter, while exploring the different ways in which self-discipline can impact on our lives as part of the Catholic community.

### **Main Project: Rocks, Relics and Rumbles**

#### **Geography**

'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles' is our continuing main project this half term. This project teaches your child about the features and characteristics of Earth's layers, including a detailed exploration of volcanic, tectonic and seismic activity. Your child will learn about fossil formation and famous fossil-hunters, while developing their awareness of the different types of rocks on Earth. This project will also drive their learning in English, which will include non-chronological reports, poetry, newspaper reports and diaries.

### **Mini Project: People and Places**

#### **Art**

This half term, your child develop their understanding of the different ways which people and places can be captured, with their focal point being the world-famous works of LS Lowry. Your children will consider composition and mood through his works in comparison to contemporaries, before beginning to create their own art works in Lowry's style inspired by their school environment.

### **Mini Project: Forces and Magnets**

#### **Science**

This half term, your child will continue to participate in an project called 'Forces and Magnets'. Your child will learn about contact and non-contact forces, including friction and magnetism. They investigate frictional and magnetic forces, and identify parts of a magnet and magnetic materials.

### **Mini Project: Making it Move.**

#### **DT**

This term our D.T. project is titled 'Making it Move.' This continuing project teaches your child about cam mechanisms and how the different shapes can impact on the movement created. They experiment with different shaped cams before designing, making and evaluating a child's automaton toy.

#### **Computing**

This half term your child will be studying the topic "We are Presenters!" They will be exploring how television shows are made, before planning, developing and filming their very own shows! The children will be encouraged to use a variety of programs and editing software to do so, while continually practising their teamwork and communication skills to create a successful group production.

#### **MFL**

Throughout KS2, your child has been developing their knowledge and confidence in using the French language. The topic for this half term is portraits! Your child will develop their understanding around the vocabulary of different features, eventually working to create their own sentences using this new knowledge. As always, children will have the opportunity to practise writing, reading and, most importantly, speaking French with others in their class to ensure they are comfortable with the language.

#### **PE**

This half term, your child will be working with the London PE Network to develop their dance skills, working with a particular focus on the fluidity of different dance phrases within a specific context or style.

Your child will also partake in football development lessons with Mr Dines, our sports coach, and will therefore need a full PE kit for this on Fridays. Please ensure that your child has their full outdoor PE kit for all lessons, ensuring that all items of clothing are clearly marked with their full name and their class name.

Please send in your child's PE kit into school on a Monday, and this will be sent home on a Friday so that it can be used throughout their PE learning during the week.

### **PSHE**

This half term, your child will have the opportunity to consolidate their understanding of "Enterprise", learning about the concept of jobs and being paid while they explore spending and saving in the same context. In addition to this, they will sharpen their skills as they explore the concept of enterprise in business, taking part in Dragon's Den style activities.

### **Homework**

Homework will continue to be set on a Thursday, allowing the children an opportunity to consider and discuss their tasks with yourself at home as well as myself or the class team here at school. Homework is always linked to the work that has been carried out in class and provides your child with a valuable opportunity to share and consolidate the learning that has taken place in school. Your child's homework will be stuck in their homework book and this book should be returned to school on Monday mornings.

Spelling lists will be given out each Tuesday and should be learnt throughout the week for a spelling test on the following Monday. Your child should practise their spellings every day to ensure they have committed them to memory and can apply them in sentence form. We will be giving your child different spelling strategies in school which they can apply at home.

In addition, please check your child's homework diary regularly for additional homework based on individual targets when necessary. Thank you for your support in this area, particularly with helping your child recognise and build on their feedback each week.

### **Routines**

Currently a piece of fruit is provided for all children at morning break time by the Government's 'free fruit for school's 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 and Parent Mail for any correspondence from the school.

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

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Bowe

McAuley Class Teacher