



St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School Year 4 Spring Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas. Thank you for all your good wishes.

Welcome back to all the children in Year 4. I am incredibly proud of all the children, who have returned to school with a fantastic working attitude.

English

In English this term we will be exploring, planning and writing poetry, as well as developing our knowledge of persuasive writing. Children will also continue to develop knowledge and skills in spelling, spelling rules, reading comprehension, how to respond to different texts and speaking and listening skills.

Maths

The children will continue to work on activities to develop their mathematical knowledge and understanding in 5 key areas:

- ❖ Numbers and the Number System
- ❖ Calculations
- ❖ Solving Problems
- ❖ Geometry
- ❖ Statistics



Where possible, the activities will link to real life scenarios. The children will also continue to further develop mathematical mastery skills and arithmetic knowledge.

Science

This term we will begin to learn about 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Please keep a lookout for linked activities and experiments on the Year 4 section of the school website.

Foundation Subjects.

This half-term, we will be taking part in Music and French sessions each Thursday afternoon. We will be exploring different musical structures as well as developing our notation skills and performing. In French we are going to complete a range of activities to further our knowledge of animals and the weather. We are also going to focus on Geography this half-term, where we will be investigating Europe with a specific interest in Spain.

Physical Education

P.E. sessions are now on a **Monday** and we will be exploring gymnastic techniques in these sessions. To enable children to participate fully in these sessions and P.E., please ensure that children come to school dressed in a complete kit, including trainers, with each item clearly labelled with their name.

Religious Education



The topics for this term are:

- ❖ Community
- ❖ Giving and Receiving
- ❖ Self-Discipline

We will also continue Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation and Holy Communion and children should continue to attend church if they are intending to take these sacraments.

Jewellery

Just a polite reminder that earrings should be small, simple studs with only one per ear. No bracelets or bangles to be worn in school. For hair accessories, only small hair ties. Finally, longer hair needs to be tied back, out of the child's eyes.

Homework

- ❖ As you know, reading is very important. Please listen to your children read and encourage them to read as much as possible. Ensure that **1 adult signature is entered each week**. Children are asked to record what they have read alone, in their reading diary.
- ❖ Children must have their reading diary every day and diaries will be monitored during group reading sessions
- ❖ The children have a designated day to change their books which is organised alphabetically from Monday to Thursday – although they are welcome to change when they are ready to regardless of their day
- ❖ **Reading Eggspress** is an excellent way to read in short bursts and answer comprehension questions. These questions mirror the questions on SAT papers in the future – a great way to prepare.
- ❖ Times tables and related division facts need to be learned for quick recall as soon as possible and will be tested weekly on a **Tuesday**. Please remember that **Timetables Rockstars** is a great way to practise this.
- ❖ The expectation for both online platforms is at least 10 minutes per day across 5 days, giving a weekly total of 50 minutes each.
- ❖ Spellings will be tested weekly on a **Tuesday** and children can access Spelling Shed to help with each week's spellings, alongside the paper copy sent out.
- ❖ If a child has not managed to achieve the expected outcomes, support will be offered during breaktimes.

If you have any questions or anything to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Many thanks and best wishes,

Mr Dodds and Year 4 Team