



Margaret Roper Catholic Primary School

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November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Year 4! It was lovely to speak to so many parents during the consultations day last half term. I aim to arrange a convenient time after school to speak with any parent/carer that was unable to speak with me at that time – if those concerned could email me this week, that can be organized asap.

Topic

We will be concluding our history topic, Early Civilizations, this half as well as starting our new Geography topic, Our European Neighbours. This will involve locating Europe on a world map and globe, identifying individual countries which form the continent, including their capital cities, and comparing the languages, cuisines and cultural output of two different European capitals. It is hoped that we will be able to create a class information book of European countries combining classwork and homework.

English

We will be completing “Varjak Paw” by SF Said, and starting “Fly, Eagle, Fly”, an African folk tale. Our grammar objectives this term include determiners, articles, pronouns and nouns.

Maths

Coverage for this half term includes Addition and Subtraction, using formal and informal methods as well as mental strategies, Length and Perimeter, Multiplication and Division. I am still conscious that many of the children have lost confidence and/or understanding owing to their absence from formal teaching, so I am continuing to adjust the pace at which we cover the curriculum accordingly. It is possible that children will be expected to take a formal test of their times tables by the end of year 4, as was planned pre Covid-19, and I will be conducting regular times tables tests in class; I really appreciate your help in assisting your child with learning their tables this half term.

RE

During Autumn 2, our focus is:

Baptism/Confirmation – belonging
Christmas – loving

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS
PREPARATIONS

Science

We shall complete our science topic, “Food and Digestion”, before moving on to our next unit, “Living In Environments”. This will include studying the variety of environments which exist on our planet as well as basic classification of animals and plants and an exploration of the human impact on such habitats and environments.

PE

Our class PE sessions with Coach Dan are now on Thursday afternoons. Please ensure that the correct PE kit (please see our website for details) is named and worn to school on Thursdays until further notice.

Spellings

Spellings will be posted on Fridays for a spelling test for the following Friday. The children will have a variety of exercises connected with these weekly lists as part of their Early Morning Work but I would be grateful if you could also help your child practise these spellings.

Homework

Maths and English homework will be posted on Fridays to be completed by Wednesday. Topic/RE homework will be given out every other Friday for completion on Tuesday.

Reading

Children are expected to read at home every day; this could include ebooks on Kindles or articles online, as well as books or magazines. Books can be chosen at school from our class collection or school library, however, at present, they are to be read in class time but not taken home. For this reason, we expect that your child should have a separate book which they read at home also. I hope that you have had the opportunity to browse the reading list I posted – there are many titles that should pique the children's interest and keep them interested.

Mathletics and TT Rockstars

Please do use Mathletics and TT Rockstars. These are such great resource that the school provides. Reminders of log in details will soon be included on Google Classroom.

I look forward to continuing working with you and your children. Please do email me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alex Bathmaker