



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Vivian Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0DN

Telephone: 0121 464 2141

Email: enquiry@stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

www.stmaryrc.bham.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L. J. Yorke M.Ed.



St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

Year 4 newsletter - Spring 1

It has been wonderful to welcome back our Year 4 children after what has hopefully been a peaceful break for you all. We have some exciting learning opportunities to look forward to this half term including Ancient Rome and Sound in Science. We have started our new text and we're thrilled to be welcoming the author of this book into our school soon.

Year 4 staff would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Kind regards,

Year 4 staff

PE

PE days - Spring 1	
Year 4	Thursday - Football Thursday - Swimming



On PE days - the children come in wearing their PE uniform.

This is the gold t-shirt, royal blue shorts, dark navy or black tracksuit bottoms and plain trainers. Please ensure that any jewellery is taken off for PE days for your child's (and others) safety. All long hair must be tied back in a ponytail.



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*



Our RE learning for Spring 1 is: -

We will be studying the following units in our RE lessons: -

Christmas

In this unit of work the children will study the role of angels in the story of Christmas. They will learn about Christians being messengers of Christ's Good News in the world today and how the Church celebrates the Feast of Christmas.

Sharing the Life of Jesus

In this unit the children learn about the Universal Church established on the original teaching of the Apostles. They will reflect upon the Eucharist as the Sacrament which celebrates the Church's Unity. They will also be given opportunities to find out about religious customs from around the world.

Curriculum Map - Spring 1

These are the topics that your child will be studying in Spring 1 -

<p>Stunning Start A trolley with a sleeping bag and blanket is placed in the room. Pupils will discuss its owner, explore causes of homelessness like unemployment and reflect on the importance of work in supporting dignity and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Maths Multiplication and division UNCRC Article 29 Multiply two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers using efficient written methods (e.g., grid method, long multiplication). Divide two-digit numbers by one-digit numbers, understanding remainders.</p>	<p>DT - Roman sandal UNCRC Article 24 Pupils will identify the features, benefits, and disadvantages of various fastening types. They will write design criteria and create a sleeve design that meets these requirements. Using their design, they will make a template and assemble it using a stitch of their choice.</p>	<p>Year 4 R.E. UNCRC 14 Unit D: Christmas- Children will study the role of angels in the story of Christmas and how the Church celebrates the Feast of Christmas. Unit K: Sharing the Life of Christ - Children will learn about the Universal Church established on the original teaching of the Apostles. PSHE: My Happy Mind - UNCRC 5, 18 Children will learn to train their minds to focus, exploring neuroplasticity. They will reflect on using Team H-A-P, understanding how the Amygdala reacts to real and perceived danger. RSE: Module 3: Created to Live in Community Religious Understanding Session 1: A Community of Love Session 2: What is The Church? Living in the Wider World</p>	<p>Art - Mosaics (collage) Roman Tile UNCRC Article 29 The children will develop and refine their cutting techniques to design and assemble Roman-inspired mosaic tiles, applying precision and creativity in their artwork.</p>	<p>P.E. UNCRC 31 Swimming- Assessment of prior knowledge and development of the swimming strokes. Games: Invasion: Football - The unit will develop pupils' skills in attack vs defence, focusing on creating simple tactics to move the ball up the pitch and create shooting opportunities.</p>
<p>Science - Sound UNCRC Article 29 Children will learn how vibrations cause sounds and how sounds travel, as well as how sounds can change pitch and loudness. Also, they will learn about how sounds are made, carrying out demonstrations of vibrations.</p>	<p>Length and perimeter Measure and compare lengths in appropriate units (mm, cm, m, km).</p>	<p>Music - Adapting and transposing motifs (Theme: Romans) UNCRC Article 31 Children will learn a new song, singing in time and tune, identify and play a repeated pattern on a tuned instrument, create and notate a musical motif, transpose it with changes in pitch and rhythm, and perform combined versions as a group.</p>	<p>Dignity of Work Work increases the common good. UNCRC Article 32 Virtues: Grateful & Generous Scripture Focus: Practise integrity in your work. Luke 3:10-14</p>	<p>MFL - Verb 'to be' (continued) and Directional Language UNCRC 29, 30 Children will about positions in French, such as "devant" (in front of), "derrière" (behind), "sur" (on), "dans" (in), and "sous" (under). They practice creating sentences using the verb "être" (to be) along with these positions. Additionally, they will learn phrases like "dans la boîte il y a..." (in the box, there is...) and "Où est la fille?" (Where is the girl?).</p>	<p>History - Ancient Romans UNCRC 29 NPP experience Substantive Knowledge: Children will explore the chronological development of the Romans in Britain, uncovering key events, settlements and the impact on daily life, emphasizing practical insights into the Roman presence in the West Midlands. Disciplinary Knowledge: This unit will cultivate historical understanding by examining the historical method, refining the analysis of primary and secondary sources related to Roman Britain, exploring a range of historical perspectives and terminologies. Procedural Knowledge: Students will actively engage in source analysis, constructing timelines to establish chronology, evaluating Roman invasion motivations, conducting practical comparisons between Roman and Celtic settlements and looking at Metchley Fort to learn about local Roman history.</p>
<p>English UNCRC Article 27 Terrific Text 'The Night Bus Hero' by Onjali Q. Rauf. Writing Opportunities Character description of Hector. Newspaper recounting how Hector pushed Thomas' trolley in the pond. Narrative from an alternative perspective e.g.: Mei Lei Oracy Agree, Build, Challenge, Question</p>	<p>Other Reading Opportunities Non-fiction texts/poetry /myths about Ancient Rome Refugee reading - 'The Day War Came' by Nicola Davis Spoken Language opportunities Speaking about issues relating to homelessness and community.</p>	<p>Computing Programming 1 - UNCRC 17 Using decomposition to solve a problem by finding out what the code was. Coding a simple game using scratch.</p>	<p>Other Opportunities Epiphany UNCRC 14 School of Sanctuary - letter of welcome UNCRC 22 Jubilee launch day UNCRC 14 Author visit UNCRC 12 Online Safety Week - UNCRC 17 Candlemas UNCRC 14</p>	<p>Marvelous Middle Asylum seekers share their share their experiences of homelessness, displacement, and the challenges of lacking rights, such as employment, and how these have impacted their lives. Children share a meal and contribute resources to the trolley, fostering empathy and understanding. Children share a meal and contribute resources to the trolley, fostering empathy and understanding.</p>	

Homework - spelling

Year 4 Spellings for Spring 1

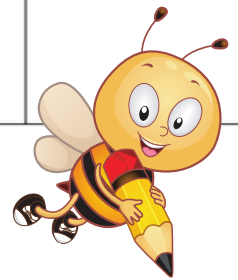
Dear Parents,

Below are the spellings your child is expected to learn each week and the dates they will be tested on. Please encourage your child to practise these spellings, as well as the Year 3/4 Common Exception Words, as regularly as possible, so that they become embedded.

Thank you for your continued support with spellings and homework.

Mrs Snios & Mrs James

To be tested on: 10.01.25	To be tested on: 17.01.25	To be tested on: 24.01.25	To be tested on: 31.01.25	To be tested on: 07.02.25	To be tested on: 14.02.25
The /g/ sound spelt 'gu'	Words with endings sounding like /tʃə/ spelt '-ture'	Possessive apostrophe with plurals (The dog's bone/ the dogs' bone)	Homophones (scene/seen, mail/male, bawl/ball) Near homophones (were/where)	Common Exception Words	
guide guest guitar guardian guard guarantee guess guilty guidebook guild	mixture adventure capture feature moisture nature picture vulture creature temperature	Singular possessive (one person or thing). dog's teacher's boy's pony's Plural possessive (more than one person or thing). dogs' teachers' boys' ponies'	there/ their weather/ whether knight/ night were/ where hour/ our/ are scene/seen mail/male bawl/ball	actual believe business calendar complete continue decide disappear favourite occasionally	



Year 3 and 4 Common Exception Words

Aa	breath	consider	enough	grammar	interest	Nn	perhaps	question	suppose
accident	breathe	continue	exercise	group	island	natural	popular	Rr	surprise
accidentally	build	Dd	experience	guard	Kk	naughty	position	recent	Tt
actual	busy	decide	experiment	guide	knowledge	notice	possess	regular	therefore
actually	business	describe	extreme	Hh	Ll	Oo	possession	reign	though
address	Cc	different	Ff	heard	learn	occasion	possible	remember	thought
although	calendar	difficult	famous	heart	length	occasionally	potatoes	Ss	through
answer	caught	disappear	favourite	height	library	often	pressure	sentence	Vv
appear	centre	Ee	February	history	Mm	opposite	probably	separate	various
arrive	century	early	forward	Ii	material	ordinary	promise	special	Ww
Bb	certain	earth	forwards	imagine	medicine	Pp	purpose	straight	weight
believe	circle	eight	fruit	increase	mention	particular	Qq	strange	woman
bicycle	complete	eighth	Gg	important	minute	peculiar	quarter	strength	women



Homework - reading

Read with your child/ren at home every day. Ask questions about the book to see how well your child has understood what they have read. Sign the reading diary so that the teachers know how reading is going at home.

Homework - maths

Research shows that quick recall of multiplication and division facts is essential for helping children do well in their maths learning. Encourage your child to be on x-table rockstars every night and support them to improve their x-table knowledge and quick arithmetic skills.

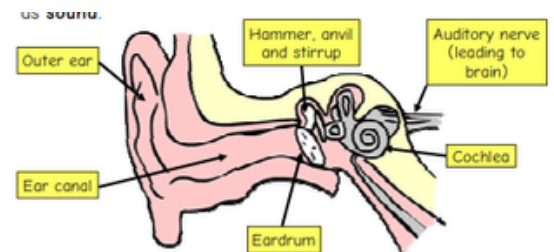
Homework - Power Project - Science

Sound- Our power projects this half term have a Science theme. Year 4 are learning: - Sound

We will be learning how vibrations cause sound and how sound travels; and how sound can change pitch and loudness.

We have given some activity ideas below...

1. **The Ear:** create a 2D or 3D picture of the ear, ideally with labels to identify the different parts of the ear and how we hear sound.



2. **String telephone:** Make a string telephone to explore how sounds travels over a distance. Write an exploration of how this works.

3. **Create an instrument using household items.** Try creating shakers by using pasta and rice in empty bottles. You could also try using bottles either with filled with varying degrees of water or empty and tapping them with wooden spoons.

4. **Drawing to think about music** - Complete a listening activity. Listen to a piece of music and 'dance with your hands' whilst using crayons, pencils, felt tips, paint brushes, responding to the music through visual art.

5. **How we hear things** - Create an information text that explains how our ears work.

Dates for this half term - Year 4

Spring theme -

Spring 1 Virtues

6th January - all day

8th January 2025 - 9:15am

14th January 2025 - am

17th January 2025 - 9:15am

24th January 2025- all day

31st January 2025 - am

5th February 2025 - 9:15am

6th February 2025 - 4:00pm

WB 10.2.25

11th February 2025 - all day

14th February 2025 - end of day

Dignity of Work

Grateful and Generous

Children return to school at normal time

Year 3 Mass in Church (and Year 4 classes attend) - parents welcome

Year 4 visit to Harborne library (8:45 4J and 10:15 4M)

Year 4 Year group Assembly

Jubilee Launch Day

Author visit for Year 4 and Year 5

Year 4 Mass in Church (and Year 3 classes attend) - parents welcome

PTA meeting

Online Safety Week

Safer Internet Day

Break up for half-term break - normal time