



September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after the summer break. We hope you have had an enjoyable time and that you and your child are ready for the start of school and the last year with us at Holy Cross. We hope to make this a very memorable year for your child, whilst preparing them for their new adventures at secondary school. Please find below a list of the topics that we will be covering during the coming Advent term.

Come and See

Our topics in Come and See are 'Loving', 'Vocation and Commitment' and 'Expectation' in addition to looking at another faith. We will also have the opportunity to take part in Retreats with our chaplain.



English

During this term the children will be studying a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. We are beginning the Advent term reading the wonderful text 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. Set in Victorian Britain, this text will support our learning for our first History topic – 'The Industrial Revolution and The Victorians'. The children will build on their English skills by learning a range of writing techniques and develop their reading skills through a variety of comprehension activities including the use of VIPERS.



In the second half of the term, we will be using the thought-provoking text 'Goodnight Mr Tom' to support our writing and also read extracts from 'The Diary of Anne Frank'. Both these award-winning books will provide the opportunity for some wonderful English work and prompt much opportunity for discussion. Both texts link with our second History topic of the term: WWII.

Spellings

We will continue to use the Pyramid approach to the teaching of spelling – which the children are familiar with. The pyramid will be given to your child to take home at the beginning of each half term. We will continue to also use the website Spelling Shed for fun games. **Spellings will be tested every Thursday.** **Please note, spellings for group one this term will focus on the Y5/6 spellings from the curriculum.** In year 6, for a child to meet the expected standard in writing they must demonstrate they can spell correctly the words from the Y5/6 spelling list. Therefore, it is important these words are learnt and used correctly in the children's writing. The children also need to be able to use a dictionary quickly and accurately so that they are able to check and spell more ambitious vocabulary in their work. Therefore, it would be extremely helpful if the children had the opportunity to practise using a dictionary at home. Please see this statement from the writing assessment framework.

'Pupil's must spell correctly most words from the year 5 / year 6 spelling list, and use a dictionary to check the spelling of uncommon or more ambitious vocabulary.'

Reading

Please continue to read regularly with your child, as this greatly improves their progress in all areas of the curriculum. Your child should try and read every night for 15 minutes at least and record this in their books. Please make every effort to hear your child read at least 3 times per week and record this in their diary. Should you have any difficulties in supporting your child with their reading please speak to us.



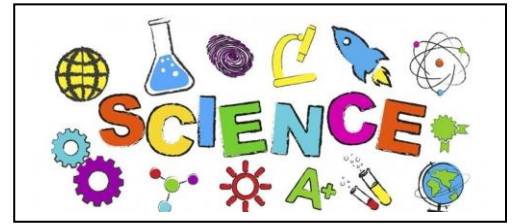
Maths

Maths will follow the White Rose curriculum. This term we will focus on place value, the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and fractions. We will also be working hard on our maths arithmetic skills. Please

support your child in completing any homework.

Science

Our Science topic for the first half term is 'Electricity' and during the second half it will be 'Light'. The children will also have the opportunity to carry out practical investigations.



History

This term's first History topic is 'The Industrial Revolution and The Victorians'. After half term, we will be studying WWII - which will run alongside Remembrance Day; something always respected at Holy Cross. We are also planning a trip during this term to extend our learning even more. More details to follow!

Art and DT

During our transition days, we began our work on William Morris – the Victorian textile designer and poet. The children produced some fabulous work linked to our first topic on the Victorians. For the rest of the term we will follow the Kapow art and design scheme of work and study a range of art and design techniques including drawing and painting.

Computing.

In Computing, we will be following the NCFE programme of study. We will start by looking at computing systems and networks and move on to creating media – web page creating.

Music

This year, we are very fortunate that our weekly music lessons will be taught by a specialist music teacher. Our music lessons will be on a Thursday morning.

French

The children will revise key areas of vocabulary and pronunciation and will begin to ask and answer questions in French as we work towards holding small conversations with one another.

This term, teachers in Key Stage 2 will teach their lead subject to Years 3 -6. These subjects will be taught on a Monday and Tuesday afternoon and the following teachers will teach Class 6:

Miss Gibbens -Science

Mrs Fitzpatrick - French

Mrs Oates - Computing

Miss Bamford - PSHE

As part of our PSHE work the children will be completing the 10 week DART programme (Drug Abuse Resistance Training). We will begin our first DART lesson on Wednesday 7th September. We are hoping to have an assembly to celebrate our achievements in DART at the end of November.

P.E.

PE lessons will be on a Thursday afternoon with Mr Woolly and we would ask that children come in to school with their full PE kit on. PE will rotate on a fortnightly basis with Forest Schools, which continue to be run by Mrs. Hudson. Please see the list of Forest School dates on our Class Dojo page. On the weeks the children do not have Forest Schools they will have PE with Mr Woolly.



On these Wednesday afternoons the children will also have a PE lesson with Mr Priestley: 14th, 28th September and 12th October. The children will also need to wear their PE kit on these days.

We encourage the children to drink water whilst in class, so we would be grateful if you could provide your child with a named bottle (with a sports cap) which can be kept for this purpose. Water only please.

This will be a very busy year and we hope your child enjoys it. Please feel free to speak with us should you ever have any questions, concerns or worries. Please take a look at our school website (using the link below) for some advice on supporting your child's mental health as they return to school.

<https://www.holycrossschoolhucknall.com/parents/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>

Miss. Bamford, Mrs. Tipton, Miss Lloyd and Mrs Alderson.
Year 6 Team