



Holy Cross Primary Catholic Voluntary Academy



Miss Duong teaching in class – Mon - Thurs

Miss Pritchard, our student teacher, will be building upon her teaching in class, and teaching up until the end of June.

I hope you all had a fantastic, happy and relaxing break over the Easter period. We are now in the last term of Year 2 and KS1, and will continue our hard work to achieve our best and challenge ourselves.

Our topic for the Pentecost Term is 'Kings and Queens' and 'Coastlines'. We will be focusing on the history of monarchs, and The Royal Family. We will also focus on coastlines, what they are, and which coastlines are the closest to Hucknall. As always, we will also try to make cross-curricular links to other areas of learning such as English, music, art and D&T if possible.



Religious Education is called RED – Religious Education Directory. There are 6 topics which are taught over the school year, one topic per half-term. This term, the children will learn about two topics: 'To the Ends of the Earth' and 'Dialogue and Encounter' where we shall be finding out about other faiths too.

In 'To the Ends of the Earth', we shall be learning to sequence the events from the Resurrection to Pentecost, recall the Scripture story of the Ascension and say what they wonder about how the disciples were feeling, (Jesus appears to the apostles and the

Ascension (Lk 24: 36-53), retell the story Pentecost Day linking to Pentecost and Peter talks to the crowd (Acts 2: 1-9, 12-13), recognise that St Luke wrote a gospel account of the life of Jesus and the Acts of the Apostles about the early Church, retell the story of the Conversion of Saul (Acts 9: 1-19), recognise that Christians believe the Holy Spirit opens their hearts to God and helps them to pray - God is love. We will learn that love is God's first gift poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, in all prayers, Christians welcome the Holy Spirit and open their hearts to God, that Christians pray to the Holy Spirit for help ('Come Holy Spirit') and that there are different symbols of the Holy Spirit in art: wind, fire, and dove e.g. Taizé, Marlene Scholz's 'Blessed Trinity'.

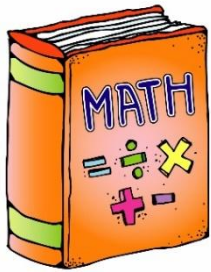
We will also learn and name the fruits of the Holy Spirit, and make simple links between the life of Saint Francis of Assisi (or another saint) and the fruits of the Holy Spirit, and make links between the life of Oscar Romero (or another holy person) and the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

In 'Dialogue and Encounter', we will learn, talk about and discuss other faiths.

In **English** we shall be looking at stories linked to our topic, of coastlines focusing on the story of Flotsam which is a book without words. The story will help the children to use their imagination and write a story for the pictures in this book. We will also read stories about Kings and Queen's looking at The Queen's knickers and other stories linked to this topic too. We will also access and use non-fiction books linked to these topics too. We continue to focus on our narrative writing focusing on openings and endings of stories, but also building our imagination through words. We will also build upon our non-fiction writing such as instructional writing, ensuring that we include the correct punctuation and spelling in our writing.



Children will be reading daily as a class and reading with myself or Miss Pritchard 1-1. We will have a big focus on reading VIPERS. We use VIPERS as it helps us with our reading. It stands for Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Sequence. We will also have daily Phonics sessions which will include SPAG – Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar - and handwriting sessions to focus on letter formation.



In **Maths** we shall continue to follow our White Rose's Small Steps but will have lots of fun putting our learning into the context of our topic. This term, we will begin with a quick recap of all of the topics we learnt in the Advent and Lenten term. We will also learn about fractions, time, statistics, positional and direction too. We will also continue to embed place value and number, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, reasoning and problem solving and consolidate any misconceptions to support your child as they move to Key Stage 2, Year 3. Children can continue to learn their times tables by logging onto their Times Table Rockstars account and develop their development of speed and fluency to apply number facts to all aspects of maths. They will also continue to apply their skills concretely, pictorially and abstractly ensuring that they are fluent in their skills before they are able to reason and solve problems.

In **History**, we shall be learning about the life of another significant individual from the past and events beyond living memory, looking at King's and Queen's and the Royal Family. We will look at the transition from Queen Elizabeth II to King Charles III's reign. We will learn about members of the Royal Family, how they become a monarch and their family tree. We will also look at how life and each coronation differs too.



In **Geography**, our topic will focus on coastlines. We will also continue to focus and recap on geographical elements we have already learnt, such as, human and physical features, continents and oceans, directions and compass directions, map skills but also learn the definition of a coastline, use maps to identify the closest coastline to Hucknall and look at how coastlines are formed.



In both D&T and Art, we will continue to use our Kapow units of learning. In **Design & Technology**, the children will be looking at mechanisms and a fairground wheel; designing, planning, making and evaluating their Fairground Wheel. In **Art** we shall be looking at the unit painting and mixing media; life in colour and linking this to our geography topic of coastlines, looking at some seaside/coastline artwork by **Van Gogh** and **Monet**. We will explore different textures and collage techniques to create our artwork and evaluate our work at end too.



In **Science** we shall be learning about 'Plants', the children will observe and describe how seeds and bulbs grow into mature plants and find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. The children will be working scientifically throughout both units and asking and answering questions by scientific enquiry and investigation including collecting and analysing data. We will plant and monitor how our tomato seeds this term. We shall also be learning about

'Animals, including humans; Living Things' and taught the following: notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults, find out about, and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food and air), describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

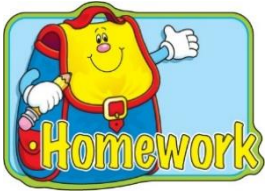
We will continue our weekly Thursday music sessions with Mr Burton. We continue to focus and embed long and short sounds, pitch, beat and tone, and many other elements which help and support us to be fantastic musicians. We will also embed and use the following terms: tempo, dynamics, tonality, and learning different music styles and genres, as well as singing techniques and performance skills. We will continue to learn to play musical instruments to the correct beat and tempo, learning to read musical notes too.



This term, we shall be continuing with our Get Set 4 PE units of learning and will focus on the following units; Athletics, Net and Wall Games, Invasion Games, and a unit on Striking and Fielding. Mr Woolley will teach our PE sessions on a Thursday.

Please ensure that your child comes to school on a Monday and Thursday in their PE kits.

Note Staff are not allowed to remove and replace earrings. Please ensure that your child does not come to school wearing their earrings on a PE day. Thank you.



Homework

The children will have on-going homework such as weekly spellings, knowledge organisers, as well as homework that needs to be completed and handed in such as the Explore homework for Come and See. Homework will help and support to consolidate your child's learning. Part of your child's weekly homework will be to complete the following tasks;

- **Spelling Shed** games are always available so please log on for 10 minutes a week. This will support and embed your child's reading and spelling of words.
- **TTRS** – Times Table Rock Stars – log on as and when you can, even if just for 10 minutes a week to practice your times tables.
- **Spellings** – all of spellings will be added under the 'Spellings' tab on our class page. The children are always given a paper copy too.

Diary Dates

Here are just a few dates for your diary, please see the electronic diary on the school website as there are even more dates of what's happening in school between now and the end of term. Thank you.

LCH – Lifting Children's Hopes - Colour Dash - this will take place on the school field at the end of the day, from 2.45pm. All of the children will be able to take part in this and parents and families are invited to come and watch. Sponsor forms have been sent out.

May Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May 2026 – school closed.

Year 2 Maths Workshop - Monday 2nd April 2026 at 9am – all are welcome.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 22nd May 2026 – bring a bottle.

May half-term – 1 week – break up on Friday 22nd May 2026 return to school on Tuesday 2nd June 2026.

Inset Day – Monday 1st June 2026.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 5th June 2026 – bring chocolate.

Phonics Screening Check – Monday 8th June – Friday 12th June 2026 – for children who need to retake the check.

Parents and Friends Group to lead 'Superman' gifts to buy – Friday 19th June 2026.

Summer Fair – Friday 26th June 2026 – more details to follow soon.

International Food Day – date TBC – more details to follow soon.

Sports Day EYFS and KS1 – date TBC – more details to follow soon. All families welcome to attend.

School reports to be sent to parents – date TBC – details to follow soon.

End of Year awards – – date TBC – Family members of children receiving an award will be invited to attend.

Thank you in advance for your help and support, as always,

Miss Duong

